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HANDBOOK FOR TRAVELLERS

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AND

SOMERSETSHIRE.

FOURTH EDITION.

With Travelling Map and Plans.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

SINCE the publication of the last Edition of the *Handbook of Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset*, some new lines of railway have been opened, and other local changes made, which have rendered necessary some re-arrangement and many alterations.

The routes have been made, as far as possible, to follow the great lines of railway in unbroken continuity, disregarding the county divisions which are of no practical importance to the tourist. The object aimed at throughout has been the real utility of the Handbook, and the convenience of those who use it.

Additions have been made to every department of the work. Great care has been taken to furnish complete and trustworthy information, corrected as far as possible up to the date of publication. Those who discover mistakes or deficiencies will confer an obligation on the Editor if they will have the goodness to communicate them to him through the Publisher. It is only thus that local Handbooks can attain that degree of accuracy which may be reasonably expected by those who make use of them.

Whatever superiority the present may exhibit over former Editions is chiefly due to the ready co-operation of the numerous friends and correspondents who have aided the Editor by answering his inquiries and transmitting information, to whom he takes this opportunity of tendering his grateful acknowledgments.

E. V.

Lincoln, July, 1882.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	vii

ROUTES.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
1. London to Bath, by <i>Swindon</i> [<i>Highworth</i>], <i>Wootton Bassett</i> , [branch line to <i>Malmesbury</i>], <i>Chippenham</i> [<i>Bowood, Calne</i>], <i>Corsham</i> , and <i>Box</i> (Gt. West. Rly.)	2	9. Salisbury to <i>Wimborne</i> , by <i>Downton</i> and <i>Fordingbridge</i> [<i>Cranborne, Cranborne Chase</i>] (S. W. Rly.)	135
2. Swindon to <i>Cheltenham</i> , by <i>Pur-</i> <i>ton, Cricklade</i> , and <i>Minety</i> (Rly.)	27	10. Salisbury to <i>Shaftesbury</i> , by the <i>Vale of Chalk</i> (Road) ..	140
3. Swindon to <i>Andover</i> , by <i>Marl-</i> <i>borough</i> [<i>Avebury, Silbury</i> <i>Hill</i>], <i>Savernake</i> , <i>Colling-</i> <i>bourne</i> , and <i>Ludgershall</i> (Rly.)	29	11. Salisbury to <i>Westbury</i> , by <i>Wilton, Heytesbury</i> , and <i>War-</i> <i>minster</i> [<i>Longleat</i>] (G. W. Rly.)	142
4. <i>Chippenham</i> to <i>Frome</i> , by <i>Melks-</i> <i>ham</i> [<i>Lacock</i>], <i>Trowbridge</i> , <i>Bradford</i> [<i>Monkton Farleigh</i> , <i>Farleigh Castle, Hinton Char-</i> <i>terhouse</i>], and <i>Westbury</i> (G. W. Rly.)	46	12. Salisbury to <i>Yeovil</i> , by <i>Din-</i> <i>ton, Tisbury</i> [<i>Wardour Castle</i> , <i>Fonthill, Hindon</i>], <i>Semley</i> [<i>Shaftesbury</i>], <i>Gillingham</i> [<i>Mere, Stourhead</i>], <i>Temple</i> <i>Combe, Milborne Port, Sher-</i> <i>borne</i> (S. W. Rly.)	155
5. <i>Hungerford</i> to <i>Bath</i> [<i>Littlecote</i> , <i>Ramsbury</i>] by <i>Great Bedwyn</i> , <i>Savernake</i> , <i>Pewsey</i> [<i>Valley of</i> <i>the Avon</i> to <i>Amesbury</i>], <i>Devizes, Bradford, Freshford</i> , <i>Valley of Claverton</i> (G. W. Rly.)	62	13. <i>Southampton</i> to <i>Weymouth</i> , by [<i>Abbotsbury</i>], <i>Wimborne</i> <i>Minster, Poole, Wareham</i> [<i>Corfe Castle</i>], and <i>Dorchester</i> (S. W. Rly.)	183
6. <i>Hungerford</i> to <i>Salisbury Tid-</i> <i>worth</i> , the <i>Winterbourn Valley</i> , <i>Winterslow</i> , 3 Rtes. (Road) ..	77	14. Salisbury to <i>Lyme Regis</i> , by <i>Blandford, Puddletown, Dor-</i> <i>chester, Bridport</i> , [<i>Beamin-</i> <i>ster</i>], and <i>Charmouth</i> (Road)	217
7. <i>Devizes</i> to <i>Salisbury</i> (two Rtes.): (a) <i>Potterne, Market Lavington</i> ; (b) <i>Urchfont, Salisbury Plain</i> (Road)	82	15. <i>Dorchester</i> to <i>Yeovil</i> . <i>Maiden</i> <i>Newton</i> to <i>Bridport</i> (G. W. Rly.)	235
8. <i>Romsey</i> to <i>Salisbury</i> , [<i>Old</i> <i>Sarum, Amesbury, Stonehenge</i> , <i>Wilton, Longford, Clarendon</i>] (S. W. Rly.)	84	16. <i>Dorchester</i> to <i>Sherborne</i> [<i>Cerne</i> <i>Abbas</i>] (Road)	240
		17. <i>Isle of Purbeck</i> — <i>Swanage</i> , <i>East and West Lulworth</i> ..	242
		18. <i>The Isle of Portland</i>	252
		19. <i>Wimborne</i> to <i>Dorchester</i> by <i>Corfe Mullen, Charborough</i> <i>Park, Bere Regis, Tolpuddle</i> , <i>Puddletown</i> (Road)	258

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
20. Wimborne to Highbridge, by Blandford, Sturminster, Stalbridge, Temple Combe, Wincanton, Glastonbury [Wells] (Som. and Dors. Rly.)	262	ton, Pensford, [Stanton Drew,] Clutton and Radstock (G. W. Rly.)	422
21. Bath to Wellington, by Bristol and Clifton [Kingsweston, Leigh Court, Portishead], Yatton, [Clevedon] [Brockley Combe], [Weston-super-Mare], Highbridge [Burnham], Bridgwater [Sedgemoor, Isle of Athelney], Durston, and Taunton (G. W. Rly.)	307	27. Bristol to Yeovil, by Wells, Glastonbury, Somerton, and Ilchester (Road)	425
22. Yatton to Wells, by Banwell, Axbridge and Cheddar. The Mendips (Rly.)	392	28. Yeovil to Axminster, by Crewkerne [Ford Abbey] Chard Junction (S. W. Rly.)	429
23. Frome to Yeovil, by Bruton and Castle Cary (G. W. Rly.)	400	29. Chard Road Station to Taunton, by Chard and Ilminster (G. W. Rly.)	435
24. Witham to Wells, by Shepton Mallet (G. W. Rly.)	416	30. Durston to Yeovil, by Langport [Muchelney], and Martock (G. W. Rly.)	439
25. Bath to Evercreech Junction, by Wellow, Radstock, and Shepton Mallet (Som. and Dorset Rly.)	419	31. Taunton to Porlock, by Williton, Watchet, Washford, [Cleeve Abbey], Dunster, Minehead (G. W. Rly. and Road)	445
26. Bristol to Frome, by Brisling-		32. Bridgwater to Williton, by Cannington, Nether Stowey, [the Quantocks], Stokecourcy, Crowcombe (Road, 2 Rtes.)	465
		33. Taunton to Dulverton and Barnstaple, by Milverton, Wiveliscombe, and Bampton (G. W. Rly.)	471

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Plans of Avebury	37, 38, 39
Ground-plan of Salisbury Cathedral	91
Plan of Stonehenge	118, 119
Ground-plan of Wells Cathedral	287
Bristol	337
St. Mary Redcliffe Church	347
Map	at end.

INTRODUCTION.

"For who, indeed, at one trait, and from his own small treasury of observance, shall veritably depict even the loveliness of these dumb and thoughtless glades, bosques, and rivulets which surround us? This man seeth them when Phoebus is smiling, and that man, when the God of day is obnubilated;—not to speak of the various moods of men, which moods, whether they are gladsome or melancholy, fanciful or dull, do enchant or disenchant, for the men themselves, the outward forms and shows of nature. Therefore, always am I desirous to hear what my friends will say upon any matter that doth admit high and various discourse."
—*An unpublished fragment from the MS. of 'Ane Aunciente Clerke.'*

	Page
GENERAL ACCOUNT OF THE THREE COUNTIES IN RESPECT OF—	
A. PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GEOLOGY	vii
B. HISTORY	xiv
SEPARATE ACCOUNT OF EACH COUNTY IN RESPECT OF—	
	Wilts. Dorset. Somerset.
I. PHYSICAL FEATURES	xx xxxii .. xlii
II. GEOLOGY	xxiii .. xxxv .. xlv
III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, } INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES .. }	xxvi .. xxxviii .. xlviii
IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN	xxvii .. xxxviii .. xlix
V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES	xxix .. xl .. li
VI. PLACES OF INTEREST	xxxii .. xli .. lv

A. PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GEOLOGY OF THE THREE COUNTIES.

It is of importance, in acquiring a knowledge of the natural features of a district, to bear in mind that every acre of ground owes its form to physical agencies, the like to which may either be found at the surface, or may reasonably be supposed to be at work below the superficial crust, in some part of the globe at the present day.

These agencies may be classed primarily in a general way under two divisions (1) External and (2) Internal. Those of the first division are continually lowering land-surfaces by wearing away rocks and transporting the *débris* so formed to lower levels on the sea-bottoms, and thus are simultaneously destroying old and forming new rocks. They comprise rain and rivers, frost and glaciers, some of which are always at work over the whole surface of the land, and the sea which works at the margin only of the land, and possibly in a lesser degree by currents in the ocean's bed.

Each of these groups of denuding forces (subaërial and marine) acts

upon rocks, less or more, according to their hardness or softness, but the difference of the result is more appreciable in rocks subjected to the former, for the action over the whole surface is more uniform, whatever be its shape. Headlands composed of harder rocks on the sea margin, on the other hand, at the same time protect more or less the softer portions of the beach, and themselves receive the brunt of the attack of the waves. Thus the general tendency of the sea is to form plains, and that of rain and rivers to cut out valleys in those plains (when raised above the sea-margin) and so to form hills.

The 2nd division of forces which influence the form of the ground may be called internal. It comprises two groups, 1stly, those which at certain places on the earth's surface eject material from below through fissures in the crust (with which in this district we have little to do), and 2ndly those which from time to time raise districts above the sea-level so as to expose them to denuding agencies, or depress them below that level and so protect them from their influence.

Few of our English counties, perhaps, can illustrate so well as the three under our notice how much the form of a country is dependent on what may be called its anatomy, that is, the range of its hard and soft parts relatively.

A traveller entering the district from the east is at once struck by the two great ranges of hills which sweep across it continuously in a S.W. direction, preserving a more or less parallel course throughout their length. Each in turn presents a bold and somewhat abrupt face towards the west looking down upon wide but undulating plains formed of the strata next below, and eastward slopes away gradually in a wide plateau, less and less intersected by deep valleys as it loses itself beneath the overlapping rocks of the next great series of beds above. These two ranges are only a small portion of the great north-west escarpments of the Cretaceous and Oolitic rocks, which run across the whole of England, from the north coast of Yorkshire to the east of Devonshire. They may be roughly said to run in a curve of one-fourth of a circle, the centre of which will be somewhere about the island of Holyhead, and the rocks of which they are composed have a general dip or declination towards the south-east. On the west they rise from plains of the older rocks on which they lie, and towards the east are concealed in turn by newer rocks which lie upon them. Each of these great groups is composed of several members, which in their turn are constituted of different materials, or of the same materials in different proportions, some of which are better adapted for resisting the attacks of disintegrating forces. Consequently the harder rocks stand out in high relief whilst the softer crumble away beneath the attacks of time, and so a succession of parallel ridges is produced with intervening valleys or plains. The two most striking of these ridges are that of the chalk in the Cretaceous rocks, and that of the Great, or Bath Oolite in the Jurassic series; but all the other alternations produce features which are more or less marked and continuous in their range, and fill up the minor details of the landscape.

The *Tertiary Formations* in this district are confined to Wilts and Dorset, and consist of the Bagshot beds which form a wide tract of barren sandy heaths. They rest upon the London clay, and this again in turn upon the Woolwich beds; these last two formations forming a fringe around the Bagshot beds. The range of their boundary with the chalk is marked by a trough, the south side of which runs south of Poole Harbour. Its western extremity is near Dorchester, and hence it runs in a N.E. direction by Wimborne Minster and Cranborne to Romsey.

The *Chalk* and *Greensand* escarpment enters the county of Wilts from the N.E., near Swindon, as a portion of the Chiltern Hills, and sweeps thence in a south-easterly direction above Calne to Devizes in a bold row of headlands. Here the chalk is cut back, and exposes the underlying Greensand through a broad tract extending along the deep valley of Pewsey to Burbage, not far from the east boundary of the county. It returns to its former range near Westbury, thence to Warminster, and by another indentation to Heytesbury, Maiden Bradley, and Mere. Here the boundary is again thrown some distance to the east, by a fault which brings down the Chalk against the Kimmeridge Clay, and ranges still further to Barford, near Salisbury; and not only is the Greensand exposed in the lower ground between, but also Purbeck and Portland Oolite. From hence its direction is again S.E., passing above Shaftesbury, and by the prominent hill-camp of Rawlsbury, to Bingham's Melcombe. Hitherto we have followed a generally S.W. direction, but the main mass of the Chalk now runs due W.N.W., and after a few miles ceases altogether, its former extent being shown only by detached outliers resting on the Greensand. Other changes now come on. The Greensand has been resting chiefly on the uppermost Oolitic rocks: but it now lies on lower and lower beds in succession as it runs west, passing, one by one, over the edges of the Oolitic and Liassic rocks, and resting west of Chard on Triassic marls, at the same time attaining greater thickness, and forming the bold range of the Blackdown Hills. It lies in more and more detached masses as it goes west into Devonshire, and one little outlier of this formation is known to exist on "Carbonaceous" rocks so far away as Orleigh Court near Bideford in North Devon, a fact of most interesting significance, as showing the former extent of Cretaceous rocks over the whole of the intervening area, and probably further. The main body of the Chalk now ranges south in an irregular line to within 3 miles of the South coast. It here enters a very troubled country, full of disturbances and faults, and after making a curve to the east which brings it within 1 mile of the sea at Abbotsbury, its entire course for more than 15 miles to E. Chaldon, near Lulworth, is determined by a great east and west fault, which brings up against it Kimmeridge Clay, Portland Sand and Stone, the fresh-water beds of the Purbeck and Wealden series, and the Greensand. The fault dies out here, but where the Chalk, Greensand, and Wealden come to the coast near Lulworth other faults again come in and create great confusion in the rock masses. They range at a high

angle all the way to the Foreland Pinnacles south of Studland Bay, opposite to the Needles, their representatives in the Isle of Wight.

The *Great Oolitic* escarpment in this district presents a much more regular range than that of the Chalk. At the Racecourse on Lansdown, near Bath (where a most magnificent view of the surrounding country in every direction may be obtained) we stand on the escarpment, and see it running away N. by E., forming the range of the Cotswolds, and S. by W. in like manner, in a line almost uninterrupted as far as the Mendips, against which it rests, but intersected by narrow and deep river-valleys, the streams of which have cut their way down through the Oolitic rocks in succession to the Lias (and in some cases the Trias), and carry out the waste so formed into the Triassic plain. Perhaps no view in the three counties gives one so good an idea of their Physical Geography as this. Standing on a lofty plateau of the Great Oolite, you may see it sloping away from you towards the S.E., and disappearing beneath the higher beds, these in turn doing likewise, and in the dim distance the Chalk downs, with their rounded softness of outline, capping the whole: to the W. the Oolitic outline of Dundry, flat-topped, but, like the main mass, sloping east and standing out in sharp contrast with the more rounded contour of the great range of the Mendips beyond: to the N.W. the busy port of Bristol and, almost at our feet, the Bristol and Somersetshire coal-field, concealed for the most part by the Lias and New Red, but having its extent well shown by the distant Carboniferous Limestone hills, which rise from below it in almost every direction. The distant view embraces the Bristol Channel and the mountains of South Wales beyond.

The *Oolitic* range, after running S.S.W. to where the Mendips meet it at right angles, there rests on Trias, Coal-measures, Carboniferous limestone and the Devonian axis in turn. The Palæozoic rocks passed, it continues its course in pretty much the same general direction as before, with a tolerably regular range but jagged outline to near Yeovil. E. and W. faults now come in, and the range takes a westerly course to near Crewkerne, then through a much faulted and broken country to Beaminster, whence it pursues its old direction to the coast near Bridport.

The *Lias*—although by fossils more nearly allied to the Oolites in its geographical range in this country—is rather to be classed with the Trias, upon which it lies over the greater part of the low country of the Coal-measures to the N. of the Mendips, and also of the low country on its southern flanks, and beneath the Blackdown Hills to the Dorsetshire coast.

But when we have followed these formations through the range of their main mass, and seen the bold front which in their whole length they present towards the W. or N.W., and noticed how on that side in every little combe and on each exposed bluff they are crumbling away beneath the hand of time, we have not yet done with them. In traversing the district of the older rocks, which runs away in an undulating plain from beneath them, we still come upon isolated remnants of them,

which tower boldly above the surrounding country, silent but impressive monuments of a state of things existing in ages long gone by, when the whole area was covered by them as by a sheet, which concealed, and at the same time preserved from waste, the underlying formations. In the Oolitic rocks, we may mention as instances the long scarp of Dundry Hill, and to the S.E. around Farnborough the outliers of Stantonbury (with its camp), Wilmington, and those of the Sleight and Barrow hills. These all consist of inferior Oolite resting on the sands. Outliers of the sands upon the Lias marlstone are to be seen at Glastonbury Tor with its commanding view, and to the E. between E. Penard and Ditcheat. A marked outlier of the Lias marlstone on the lower Lias is that of Brent Knoll S. of the Bleaden Hills.

The Trias of the three counties is found for the most part in comparatively low ground resting on the denuded edges of the Carboniferous and Devonian rocks. It is composed of several members. Great masses of magnesian conglomerate full of fragments of Carboniferous limestone, along the flanks of the Mendips, would appear to point to a shore deposit, and the marls are so interbedded with them as to imply a contemporaneous origin. The analogous shore-deposits resting on the sides of the Devonian hills are in like manner full of fragments of the slate and shale against which they lie, and from which they have been undoubtedly derived.

The Rhoetic or Penarth beds (the highest member of the Trias in England) were formerly supposed to belong to the Lias, and were coloured accordingly on the maps of the Government Geological Survey. A careful examination of their fossils a few years ago rendered it necessary for them to take their place with the Triassic rocks. They are well shown on the beach near Watchet, Somersetshire; patches occur on the top of the Mendips, and great treasures in the shape of mammalian remains have been extracted from a fissure containing these beds near Frome, by Mr. Charles Moore.

The Carboniferous Rocks.—"The northern part of the Bristol and Somersetshire Coal-field forms a trough lying N. and S., narrowing towards its northern limits and expanding towards the opposite direction, till E. of Bristol it reaches a width of seven miles, the beds rising at high angles along and beyond the edge of the basin. South of Bristol the boundary of the Coal-field, marked by the range of the Limestone hills, sweeps round to the westward and is lost under the sea beyond Nailsea Moor, near Clevedon, in Somersetshire. South of this the Coal-measures underlie the Liassic formation of Dundry Hill, and encircle the large mass of Carboniferous limestone near Congresbury. Over the greater part of this area the Coal-formation is buried at moderate depths under newer horizontal strata."*

On the E. the Coal-measures pass beneath the Oolitic escarpment, but have been proved by borings, &c., not to pass eastward of a line joining Bath and Frome. The succession and thicknesses of the Car-

* 'The Coalfields of Great Britain,' by Edward Hull. F.R.S.

boniferous strata near Bristol, are thus given by Mr. D. Williams, in the publications of the Geological Survey of Great Britain:—

	Feet.
* Coal Measures { Upper series, with 10 coal-seams	1800
Central or Pennant Grit, with 5 ditto	1725
Lower Shales, with 36 ditto	1600
Millstone Grit, Hard Siliceous Grits, &c.	950
Carboniferous Limestone	2338

The Carboniferous Limestone forms the long chain of the Mendips, with its picturesque combs and crags, and lies in the form of an anti-clinal or arch, its beds turning over to the N. and passing under the Coal-measures, and also turning over to the S. beneath the Trias and Lias formations; and, it is thought, possibly bringing on the Coal-measures in that direction also. The Devonian rocks are to be seen at several places appearing from beneath the limestone in the centre of the arch.

The Limestone is full of caves and fissures, produced by the action of rain-water full of carbonic acid gas dissolving its substance; and in several of these cavities bones of extinct animals have been found, as at Banwell and Wookey Hole. Ores of lead, iron, zinc, and manganese are to be found in several localities.

The *Devonian Rocks* of the 3 counties are chiefly confined to West Somerset, and form the beautiful country which comprises in its borders the Forest of Exmoor and the fine hills of Brendon, Croydon, and lastly, the Quantock, separated from the rest by a belt of Triassic rocks. The beds of Devonian are composed of a large series of sandstones, grits, slates, shales, and limestones. Professor Jukes was of opinion that these rocks represent the Carboniferous slate of Ireland, and that by an inversion of the beds the series is repeated.† Mr. Etheridge maintains that they are all distinct, and from consideration both of their fossils and their range,‡ divides them into Lower, Middle, and Upper. The wild beauty of some parts of these moors is very fine, and the rich contrast of colour produced by the redness of the soil and the bright green of the luxuriant pastures, very striking.

Having now traced the principal ranges of hills in the 3 counties, and seen how they depend upon the extent and direction of rock masses, we shall better be able to understand the drainage of the area by means of its rivers. The great watershed of England which divides the sources of rivers flowing N. and W. from those which discharge themselves on the S. and E. coasts, enters the W. side of Somerset on the heights of Exmoor, and runs with a wavy line towards the S.E. to a point N. of Cerne Abbas, in Dorsetshire, and in its course crests the Devonian heights of the Brendon Hills, thence across the Trias to the Greensand hills of Blackdown by Chard, and above Crewkerne to near Cerne Abbas, dividing in the first part of its course the lesser streams of W. Somerset,

* 'Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain,' vol. 1. p. 207.

† 'Notes on South Devon and Cornwall.' Dublin.

‡ 'On the Physical Structure of W. Somerset and N. Devon,' &c., Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., December, 1867.

which enter the Bristol Channel, from the greater rivers of Devonshire, the Exe and the Otter, which run to the S. coast, and afterwards the lesser streams of Dorsetshire from the larger basin of the Parrett on the N. Thence its course is N. by Sherborne and Wincanton, along several Oolitic scarps dividing the waters of the Stour from those of the Yeo, a tributary of the Parrett. From near here the great Chalk escarpment forms the division all the way to Swindon, near which it runs round to the N.W., encircling the sources of the Thames.

Those who wish for fuller details of any particular locality, will do well to consult the maps, sections, and other publications of the Government Geological Survey.* The maps, on the scale of 1 inch to a mile, will be found useful to pedestrians, as, in addition to all the topographical details of the Ordnance Maps, they have geological lines and colours superadded.

The following Table of Sedimentary Rocks occurring in Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, may be useful:—

CÆNOZOIC ..	Eocene	{	Bagshot and Bracklesham beds.
			London and Bognor Clay.
			Plastic Clay series.
MESOZOIC ..	CRETACEOUS ..	{	Chalk.
			Chalk Marl.
			Upper Greensand.
			Gault.
			Lower Greensand.
	OOLITIC	{	Wealden.
			Purbeck beds.
			Portland beds.
			Kimmeridge Clay.
			Coral Rag.
			Oxford Clay.
			Cornbrash.
			Bradford Clay.
			Great, or Bath, Oolite.
			Inferior Oolite.
	LIASSIC	{	Upper Lias.
			Marlstone.
			Lower Lias.
	TRIASSIC	{	Rhætic or Penarth beds.
			Red Marls.
			Sandstones.
			Dolomitic Conglomerate.

* Professor Ramsay's Geological Map of England and Wales may be found useful in gaining a knowledge of the general run of the country.

PALÆOZOIC ..	{	CARBONIFEROUS ..	{	Coal Measures. Millstone Grit. Carboniferous Limestone. Lower Limestone Shale.
		DEVONIAN	{	Pilton and Barnstaple beds. Braunton beds. Croyde beds. Baggy and Marwood Slates. Pickwell Down Sandstones. Grey Unfossiliferous Slate. Calcareous Slates. Hangman Grits. Lynton Slates. Lynton Sandstone.

B. HISTORY OF THE THREE COUNTIES.

At the time of the Roman invasion, Wiltshire and Somersetshire were occupied by the immigrant Belgæ, of whose territory the Wansdyke was the N.E. boundary, reaching from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Bristol Channel.

We have no details of the Roman conquests in the S.W. of England, but it is probable that Vespasian made himself master of this district, and carried the Imperial eagles over the Wansdyke. The Roman roads that intersected this part of Britain, and the number and extent of remains of military and domestic architecture which it presents, prove a widespread and permanent occupation of the country. It has been thought that a College of Armourers was established by Hadrian at Aquæ Solis (Bath), where it is certain from the character of the baths and temples, &c., that have been excavated, that the Romans had a populous and opulent colony. Other Roman stations in this district were Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum), Vindogladia (Gussage Cow Down, near Blandford), Durnovaria (Dorchester), Clavinium (Jordan Hill, near Weymouth), Ischalis (Ilchester), Uxela (Bridgwater), and Abona (Bitton on the Avon?). The hills show many marks of Roman military occupation, often combined with the strongholds of the earlier inhabitants.

The retirement of the Romans left the country once more in the hands of the native Britons and Romanized Britons, who in the sixth century were called to defend their country against the invading hordes of Cerdic and his sons. "Step by step, from a small settlement on the Hampshire coast, the West Saxons had won their way, fighting battle after battle against the Welsh (the native Britons), and after nearly every battle extending their borders by a new acquisition of territory."

—*Freeman*. In 520 the battle of Mons Badonicus (Badbury Rings, near Wimborne), in which the Britons under Arthur were victorious, gave a temporary check to Cerdic's advance, and led to a treaty between him and Arthur, followed by a period of comparative peace. Cerdic died in 534, and Arthur in 542 (*Guest*). War broke out again, and in 552 Cynric totally defeated at Old Sarum a vast army of Britons raised

against him. In 556 the desperate battle of Barbury Hill (near Swindon), fought by Cynric and Ceawlin with the Britons under Aurelius Conan, decided the fate of the country of the Wilsætas, which thenceforward formed part of the kingdom of Wessex. Twenty-one years later (577) the decisive battle of Deorham (Dyrham in South Gloucestershire), won by Ceawlin the Bretwalda, sealed the fate of South Britain. The Britons lost their three great fortified towns of Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, and were thus cut off from their brethren in what we now know as Wales. Divided and weakened, all hope of making head against the enemy was gone. They retired westwards, where, separated from the kingdom of Wessex by the Somersetshire Axe and the forests of Somersetshire and Wiltshire, they long maintained their independence. "This was the last heathen conquest waged by West Saxons against the Britons. During a space of 300 years the conquest still went on. Step by step the English frontier advanced from the Axe to the Parrett, from the Parrett to the Tamar; Taunton at one stage, Exeter at another, were border fortresses against the Welsh enemy."—*Freeman*. Wiltshire saw the sun of its conqueror's prosperity set when at the battle of Wanborough (near Swindon), A.D. 591, Ceawlin was defeated by the Welsh headed by his rebellious nephew Ceolric, and compelled to abdicate his throne. Two years after he died in exile. This defeat reduced Wessex to a state of great weakness, from which it revived under Cenwalh, who fought with signal success against the Britons at Bradford, A.D. 652, and at "Peonna" (identified by some with Penselwood), A.D. 658, and effected the final subjugation of Somersetshire as far as the Parrett. This victory, which made the district for ever after English ground, was followed by a lasting peace, in which the conquered sat down side by side with the conquerors. Struggles for supremacy now began between Wessex and Mercia. In 675, Wulfhere of Mercia was defeated by Æscwin of Wessex at Great Bedwyn. In 715 a still fiercer battle was fought between the same powers in the same district at Wanborough, between Ina and the forces of Mercia, without any decisive result. The power of Mercia continually increasing, Ethelbald, king of the Mercians, in 733 penetrated into the heart of Wessex, and invested Somerton, which fell under his power, the enfeebled Ethelard being unable to relieve it. About this time also the Western Welsh became troublesome. In 721 they had risen and seized on Taunton in Ina's absence, but his queen recovered it, and rased it to the ground. After Ina's abdication the Welsh succeeded in great measure in casting off the Saxon yoke, but were reduced to subjection once more by Cuthred in 753. An expiring effort for supremacy on the part of Mercia was effectually crushed in 823, when Egbert defeated Beornwulf, king of the Mercians, at Ellandun, identified by many authorities with Wilton. Four years later Mercia submitted to the conqueror, and Egbert assumed the title of Bretwalda.

We now come to the epoch of Danish invasion. These inroads had commenced in the reign of Beohtric A.D. 787, on the coast of Dorsetshire. A successful landing took place in 833 at Charmouth. The

reigns of the son and grandsons of Egbert were almost wholly taken up by the struggle against these piratical marauders. Ethelred himself fell in a battle with the heathen northerners near Wimborne, where he was buried as a saint and martyr. Alfred was summoned from the funeral to meet the Danish army at Ellendun (Wilton?), where a long and obstinate conflict left the enemy masters of the field. In 876 Wareham was surprised by them. Alfred purchased their retirement, together with a pledge that they would not invade Wessex again. But the next year saw them attacking Wareham, on their retreat from which they fell in with Alfred's fleet near Swanage, and were driven on shore with great loss. The year 878 saw the most tremendous attack on Wessex that had yet been witnessed. With largely increased forces Guthrum's army from Gloucester burst into the territory of the Wilsaetas, took the royal town of Chippenham, from which, as their headquarters, they made themselves masters of the whole country. For the time all seemed lost. The marshes of the Sumersaetas alone remained free from their ravages. Thither Alfred retired, and with the aid of the faithful Somerset thanes, raised a fortress in the Isle of Athelney, strong in its natural defences of morass and forest. At the end of 8 months he issued from his fastness, gathered round him a large army, and dealt a crushing blow on the Danish power at Ethandun (perhaps Edington, near Westbury). The Northmen were forced to conclude the disgraceful peace of Wedmore, and their leader, Guthrum, had to submit to the rite of baptism, which he received at Aller.

The feeble reign of Ethelred saw the wearying spectacle renewed of incessant landings and skirmishes of the Danes. In 988 Watchet was attacked, several thanes were killed, but the enemy were at last beaten off. Nine years later (997) they cruelly ravaged Somersetshire, and the next year Dorsetshire. To avenge the atrocious massacre of St. Brice's Day, Swend invaded England in person 1003, and after storming and plundering Exeter he marched into Wiltshire, and sacked Old Sarum and Wilton. In 1015 he made Bath his head-quarters, where he received the submission of the Western thanes. Canute's first landing in England in 1015 was at Frome Mouth, the port of Wareham, whence he proceeded to harry the shires of Somerset, Dorset, and Wilts, while Ethelred lay sick at Corsham. On Ethelred's death the next year, Wessex acknowledged Edmund as king. The wisdom of their choice was soon confirmed when Edmund's small force met and routed the army of Canute at Penselwood. In 1051 Bristol, which was rising into importance chiefly as the seat of the Irish slave-trade, was selected by Harold and his brother Leofwine as the place of embarkation for Ireland. On their return in 1052 they landed at Porlock. The men of Somerset and Devon met them in arms, and Harold began his enterprise of deliverance by being compelled to do battle with those he came to deliver. More than 30 thanes and a large number of meaner folk were slain, and Harold returned to his ships victorious, to join his father Earl Godwin's fleet at Portland. The year succeeding the Norman Conquest, 1067, Harold's three sons, who had taken refuge with Dermot, king of Leinster, attempted to enter England by the Avon, but were

driven back by the people of Bristol, who knew that domestic tranquillity was essential to their commercial prosperity. In 1086 William the Conqueror held his Court at Old Sarum. During the insurrection in support of Duke Robert's claims to the throne of England under the leadership of Odo of Bayeux, 1087, the district was much distressed by the predatory excursions made by his supporters, Bp. Geoffrey, of Coutances, and Robert de Mowbray, from Bristol. Their followers burnt Bath and attacked Ilchester, where they were repulsed.

In the 12th century the counties of Wilts, Somerset and Dorset were the scene of many of the most stirring events during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. The castle of Bristol was held by Robert Earl of Gloucester, its lord, A.D. 1138, for his half-sister. That city became the head-quarters of her partisans, from which they ravaged the country round, which became a prey to their outrages and depredations. Bath was held alternately by the forces of the two contending parties. Maud's cause was supported by William Louvel at Castle Cary, and William Fitz-John at Harptree. Stephen having vainly attempted to take Bristol by siege, turned his attention to these two castles, both of which surrendered. This success was followed by the submission of Wareham which had been occupied for Maud in this year. The warlike Bp. Roger of Sarum, the chief builder of castles as well as of churches, of his day, was at this time, with his nephews the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, secretly favouring the Empress's cause, and had furnished his castles of Devizes, Sherborne, Malmesbury, and Sarum with provisions and munitions to support her claims. The three prelates being summoned to a Council at Oxford, 1139, Roger and Bp. Alexander of Lincoln were arrested by Stephen; but Bp. Nigel of Ely escaping, took refuge at Devizes, which, with the other strongholds, was soon surrendered to the king as the price of the liberation of the two captive bishops.

The atrocities and devastation committed by the lords of the castles on their unhappy neighbours were renewed by William of Mohun from his castle of Dunster. Stephen, having vainly attempted to take it by assault, surrounded it by his forces to hold him in check, and succeeded in restoring tranquillity to the harassed district.

In 1139 Baldwin de Redvers landed at Wareham, and occupied Corfe Castle, being speedily followed by Maud and the Earl of Gloucester. From Arundel the Empress proceeded by way of Calne to Bristol, where she summoned the barons to her aid, and, as at Gloucester subsequently, assumed royal state, and, unfortunately for her hopes of success, more than royal imperiousness. Trowbridge Castle was held by a strong garrison for her by Humphrey de Bohun. The castles of Devizes and Malmesbury, with others, were continually being taken and retaken by the contending parties.

When Stephen was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, A.D. 1141, he was transferred for safe custody to Bristol Castle. Maud, who was now recognised as "Lady of England," celebrated the Easter festival this year in royal state at Wilton. The same year Maud, on her escape from Winchester, fled first to Ludgershall and then to Devizes, and

Stephen left his prison by exchange for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been taken at Stockbridge. Bristol Castle soon became the home of Maud's young son, afterwards Henry II., who remained there for four years. Maud's sovereignty was generally acknowledged by the western counties, A.D. 1143, after the disastrous defeat of the royal forces at Wilton, while Stephen held London and the eastern and central parts. Sherborne, which was regarded as a principal key of the kingdom, was surrendered to her, and at one time she made her temporary home at Devizes. The chief strongholds in Wiltshire being held by the adherents of the contending parties, that district became a prey to rapine, bloodshed, and wide-spread misery, which was only terminated by the treaty of 1153.

During the 13th and 14th centuries these three counties had a breathing time, taking little if any share in the events which were shaping our national history. At the period of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450, the Bp. of Salisbury's tenants rose and barbarously murdered the prelate at Edington. In 1471 Margaret of Anjou and her son landed at Weymouth and took refuge at Cerne; shortly afterwards Edward IV. passed through Malmesbury on his way to Tewkesbury. In 1497 the peace of the western counties was again disturbed by the invasion of the pretender Perkin Warbeck and his adherents. Being confronted with Henry VII. and his forces at Taunton, Perkin fled, and his forces surrendered to the royal mercy.

In the great civil war of the 17th century the western counties were, with the exception of the great towns, firm in their loyalty to Charles I., and they became the scene of active warfare. In the early part of 1643 the Cornishmen took up arms for the king, defeated the Earl of Stamford at Stratton, May 16, and advanced into Somersetshire. Numerous sieges and engagements with various issue occurred. In May, Wardour Castle was taken by Sir Edw. Hungerford, and garrisoned by Ludlow, but retaken by the royalists in March of the next year. In Sept. the Earl of Essex was unexpectedly attacked on Aldbourne Chase by Charles I. and Prince Rupert, and defeated with great loss. The same year the royalist garrison of Malmesbury surrendered to Sir W. Waller, who had recently made himself master of Chichester; but it was speedily retaken, and in July Waller was defeated at Lansdown near Bath, and at Devizes a few days afterwards, by the royalist General Lord Wilmot. Shortly after this serious loss, Prince Rupert made a fierce attack on Bristol, which surrendered to him in three days. Corfe Castle sustained a determined but unavailing siege from the Parliamentary forces. The following year the sun of the king's prosperity began to set in the west. Taunton was taken for the Parliament by Col. Blake, but was soon afterwards invested by the royalist forces. Lyme was besieged by Prince Maurice, whose military reputation was seriously tarnished by the unsuccessful issue of the attack, and in 1645 the Parliamentary forces of the new model animated by the sternest fanaticism, under the nominal command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, but whose real leader was Cromwell, swept through the west in an unbroken tide of conquest. Sherborne fell after an

obstinate defence of 16 days. Taunton, after enduring a siege of the most extreme severity under Goring, was relieved, July 3, by the mere tidings of their approach. Goring was defeated at Langport and Aller Moor July 10: Bridgwater fell July 23, Bath July 30. These successes cooped up the royalist forces in Devonshire and Cornwall, and precluded them from sending any assistance to Charles. They were crowned by the surrender of Bristol, after a very feeble defence by Prince Rupert, Sept. 10. Devizes fell Sept. 23, and Cromwell, having done his work, marched his forces to Donnington. Before this period armed associations of 'Clubmen' had been formed in the western counties, attaching themselves to neither party, with the object of protecting their property and checking the depredations and violence of both armies. A large body of these were routed by Cromwell on Hambledon Hill at the outset of his western campaign, Aug. 4, 1645.

The peace generally prevailing through the Commonwealth was temporarily broken by the abortive insurrection of Penruddock at Salisbury in 1655.

These counties were the theatre of the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, his brief success, and disastrous defeat, followed by "the Bloody Assize" of Judge Jeffreys. Monmouth landed at Lyme, June 11, 1685, was proclaimed king at Taunton June 20, marched onwards by Bridgwater June 21, Glastonbury June 22, Wells, Shepton Mallet, with the view of seizing Bristol. Foiled in that hope, and finding the gates of Bath shut against him, he turned towards Wiltshire, and, after a skirmish at Philip's Norton, reached Frome, his forces wearied and dispirited. Without any settled plan of a campaign he returned to Wells, and re-entered Bridgwater July 2, to sustain a complete overthrow at Sedgemoor, July 6. The infamous cruelties of Kirke and the judicial barbarities of Judge Jeffreys are inseparably connected with Taunton, Dorchester, and the other towns which had the misfortune of welcoming Monmouth.

Three years later these counties witnessed the triumphal progress of William of Orange, and the last feeble attempt of James II. to secure his throne and crown. Having landed at Torbay, Nov. 5, 1688, the beginning of December saw William at Salisbury, occupying the same apartments in the episcopal palace that James had left only a few days before, on the resignation of his vain scheme of meeting the invader in the field. The first blood spilt was shed in a skirmish at Wincanton. On Oct. 6 he reached Hungerford, and held a conference with the Royal Commissioners at Littlecote Hall.

The annals of the counties during the last 180 years have been happily uneventful.

WILTSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The chalk downs are so characteristic of Wiltshire, that the popular notion of that county is one vast Salisbury Plain. But this, like other rapid generalisations, needs considerable modification. If a line be drawn from Bishopston in N.E. to Cley Hill in S.W. of the county, for the most part parallel to, and about 4 miles distant from, the railway from Shrivenham to Frome by Chippenham, all to S. or S.E. of that line will be chalk and the kindred formations, and all to the N.W. of it, will be more or less Oxford clay and Cornbrash—three-fifths of the one to two-fifths of the other.

These are the two great natural divisions of the county, the one “chalk,” the other “cheese.”

The monarch of English chalk hills, Inkpen Beacon, is on the very confines of the county, 972 feet; and from his throne radiate two great masses of chalk, one extending northwards from Marlborough Down to the north of Norfolk and the Wash; the other extending from Salisbury Plain southwards as far as Dorchester, and eastwards over the whole of the central part of Hampshire, with two long and distended arms, the North Downs reaching to Deal, and the South Downs reaching to Beechy Head, embracing between them the vale country of the Kent and Sussex Weald.

The chalk in Wilts is divided into a N. portion (Marlborough Downs), and a S. (Salisbury Plain).

The Marlborough Downs have a bold escarpment on each side. Some of the eminences on N. are Charlborough Hill, Liddington Castle, Barbury Castle, Hackpen, Oldbury, Roundway; and overlooking the vale of Pewsey on S., St. Ann’s Hill, Walker’s Hill, Golden Ball Hill, Hewish Hill, and the picturesque bluff of Martensell. Salisbury Plain has no such bold outline. The most striking points in its N. and W. circuits are Easton and Pewsey Hills, which command the vale of Pewsey; Cheverill, Edington, Bratton, and Westbury hills, with the striking outlier of Cley Hill, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury camps: Mere, Fonthill, Chilmark are on N. of Nadder valley, and Chiselbury Camp and Whitesheet Hill on S. of it.

The North-western or “Cheese” valley rises gradually towards the Cotswolds, a spur of which thrown out from the main range by way of Rodmarton into the clay vale of Minety, between Tetbury and Cirencester, is the watershed between the sources of two considerable rivers, turning the Avon to W. and the Bristol Channel, and the Isis, or rather the Thames, to E. and the German Ocean. The former, the Avon, with its affluents, drains almost the whole of the north-western valley. Rising in a piece of ornamental water in Estcourt Park, it winds

through a narrow tortuous valley to Malmesbury, where it is joined by the Newton stream, a not inconsiderable brook, from Badminton through Easton Grey; it next passes through Dauntsey and Christian Malford, is joined above Chippenham by the Marden (a stream from E., which gathers contributions from the western slopes of the Marlborough Downs, communicates with the lake at Bowood, and flows by Stanley Abbey), and with a wide loop reaches Chippenham; then, with many a bend, passes Lacock Abbey, Melksham, Broughton Gifford (where it receives the brook of that name from the west), Whaddon (where it receives the brook of that name from the east), Bradford (receiving in the interval the Biss from Trowbridge), and so passes out of the county by Limpley Stoke and Freshford. The scenery of the higher portion of the river is of a tranquil, and, as compared with that lower down, of a tame character. The stream, strongly coloured by the alluvial deposit through which it eats its way, flows between meadow banks; the reaches now straight, now winding; the volume of water, the dipping willows, and bulky elms by the side; the banks gay with the purple loosestrife, bulrushes, and broad flags; the level meadows dotted with the large dairy cows, grazing beasts, and a few sheep; the gentle slopes which lead the eye to the distance beyond, on the right hand to the offshoots of the Cotswolds, on the left hand to the barrier of naked downs, for the most part regular in outline, but sharp and angular at Roundway, straighter along the plain, terminating at last in the unmistakable tumulus of Cley Hill; the mid landscape on either side, consisting of different farm home-steads, factory chimneys, and church towers,—reminding of the business of this life and the happiness of a better—

“In the mixture of all these appears
Variety that all the rest endears.”

As the Avon approaches Bath, it passes through deep and green valleys; further on still, at Clifton, through rock and wood. The interest gradually increases, and culminates at the Leigh Woods.

The best points from which this north-western valley can be seen are Liddington Castle, the descent of the road near Chiseldon, Barbury Castle, the road above Cherhill, or Roundway. Spye Park and Monkton Farleigh look face to face, the one W., the other E.; they are two of the finest positions in N. Wiltshire, and command the most beautiful part of this valley from Lacock to Bradford.

There are two other valleys in Wilts, both in shape not unlike those ancient stone celts which are found on these downs and in the gravel beds of the rivers; their broad ends are towards the W. The vale of Pewsey extends across the centre of the county nearly to its eastern limit at Hungerford, and divides the chalk, while the Nadder valley in the extreme S. reaches from Donhead to Salisbury.

The chalk streams themselves do not follow the course of these valleys; the streams run from N. to S., the valleys from E. to W. This seemingly perverse habit of chalk streams flowing in gorges or

transverse fissures, obtains here as further eastward, where the Chiltern Hills are pierced by the Thames; the north downs by the rivers Wey, Mole, Darent, Medway, and Stour; while the south downs are broken through by the Test, the Itchen, the Arun, the Adur, the Ouse, and the Cuckmere.

Thus in Wiltshire the central plateau of chalk called Salisbury Plain is pierced by the Bourne Brook, by the Southern or Hampshire Avon, by the Wylde, and by the Nadder—all of which meet in the neighbourhood of Salisbury (profanely called “the Sink of the Plain”), and there, sometimes divided into two or more channels, sometimes united,

“Like friends once parted,
Grown single-hearted,
Ply their watery tasks,”

in a tolerably straight line southward through a single valley, under the name of the Avon, into the sea at Christchurch.

We have already seen how a low watershed in the N. turns the streams E. and W.

But perhaps the most interesting hydrographical point in the county is near its centre, where the Wansdyke so boldly crosses St. Ann's Hill. From this spot the waters reach three different seas. Three miles N., Wellhead, near Silbury, may be considered the permanent (the brook which springs from Cleveancy fields is intermittent) and therefore the real source of the Kennet, which joins the Thames, and at last reaches the German Ocean: at Bishop's Cannings, two miles S. is the source of the Hampshire Avon, which empties into the English Channel: Blackland Brook rises four miles W. at Calston, and flows through the Somersetshire Avon to the Atlantic. The sources of these three streams are the three points of a nearly equilateral triangle, of which each side is about 5 miles long.

John Aubrey, the Wiltshire naturalist and antiquary, whose name must ever be held in the kindly remembrance of Wiltshire men, for using his eyes and making his memoranda, where others were blind or idle, noted these streams thus taking their courses “three several waies.”

The road which runs from E. Knoyle to Shaftesbury, in the extreme S.W. of the county, marks another watershed, dividing the sources of the Nadder and the Stour, though these streams ultimately unite, after a severance throughout almost the whole of their course, just above their outfall into the English Channel at Christchurch.

The natural and moral influences of North and South Wiltshire, the “cheese” and the “chalk,” leading divisions of the county, cannot be better summed up than in Aubrey's words—“According to the severall sorts of earth in England (and so all the world over) the *indigence* are respectively witty or dull, good or bad. In North Wiltshire (a dirty clayey country) the *indigence* or aborigines speake drawlinge; they are phlegmaticque, skins pale and livid, slow and dull, heavy of spirit; hereabout is but little tillage or hard labour; they only milk the cowes and make cheese; they feed chiefly on milke meates, which cools their braines too

much, and hurts their inventions. These circumstances make them melancholy, contemplative, and malicious; by consequence whereof come more law suites out of North Wilts, at least double to the southern parts. And by the same reason they are generally more apt to be fanatiques; their persons are generally plump and feggy; gallipot eies, and some black; but they are generally handsome enough." "Contrariwise on the Downes, &c., the south part, where 'tis all upon tillage, and where the shepherds labour hard; their flesh is hard, their bodies strong. Being weary after hard labour, they have not leisure to read on or contemplate of religion, but goe to bed to their rest to rise betime the next morning to their labour."

II. GEOLOGY.

The geology of Wiltshire is simple. The range of the rocks extends to none older than the upper beds of the lias, nor to any newer than the white chalk, except it be those small but important portions of tertiary clays, sands, and gravels, the highest strata of which are some Bracklesham sands near Bramshaw, and the largest portion of which overlies the chalk in Savernake forest. Moreover, there has been very little disturbance in the strata, which lie one over the other in parallel beds, or, as it is termed, "conformably." But within this comparatively limited range of rocks lie the oolites and the greensand, which are so fully displayed and easily studied in the railway cuttings and quarries.

The North-western valley belongs to the oolitic system, the several beds of which show themselves throughout its length from Highworth in the E. to Bradford in the W.

The broad bend of the lead-coloured Oxford clay, sometimes less than four, sometimes eight miles wide, extends over the Avon valley from Westbury northwards to Minety, and thence eastward over the valley of the infant Thames by Cricklade and Castle Eaton. The railway for the most part runs along it from Wootton Bassett to Chippenham, and thence to Westbury; and on the Gloucester line from Purton to beyond Minety. Much trouble it gave the contractors by the slips which took place in the cuttings. It contains in great numbers the ammonite and belemnite, the straight dart-like guard of which last animal, vulgarly called the "thunderbolt," continually occurs in the gravel drift which comes from this formation. Below it lies Kellaway Rock, so called from its being well developed at Kellaways, north of Chippenham. Above it on E. are beds of a ragged and crystalline limestone, called coral rag, which lie between the upper and lower calcareous grit. These formations compose a country of moderate elevation, stretching away E. of the Oxford clay basin, from Westbury, through Steeple Ashton, Keevil, Sandridge, Calne, Lyneham, Lydiard Millicent, the Blunsdens, and Highworth. This range of coralline oolite is again bounded on E. by Kimmeridge clay, of which we shall hear again in Dorsetshire. As the coralline rag country was comparatively elevated, so the Kimmeridge clay runs parallel to it, in a continuous depression

between it and the escarpment of the chalk, from Westbury to Rowde, and from Calne to Shrivenham Station. Swindon Junction lies in the midst of it, and the railway passes through it from Shrivenham to Wootton Bassett. This clay is overlaid by strata of sand and limestone, which, from their large development further south, are called Portland oolite: these are found at three spots in the county—Old Swindon, Potterne, and the Nadder valley—where they are quarried at Fonthill Gifford, Tisbury, and Chilmark. A bit of Purbeck limestone, the highest bed of the oolitic series, is quarried at Old Swindon. But the finest quarries are those of the great oolite which yield those magnificent blocks of cream-coloured freestone, which are sent from Box and Corsham all over England. These, several feet in thickness, and without a joint, are the true oolite, being generally composed of small rounded grains, resembling the roe of a fish. The cornbrash and forest marble are full of fossil shells, much broken; near Bradford thick beds of clay occur between oolitic limestone beds, and in these are found the crinoids, or lily-like animals now in stone; the rayed body or lily itself, is mounted on the long tender stalk, which is still attached to the rock, where the creatures were undisturbed, when potted in clay for our exhumation and admiration. The slaty or flaggy beds of the forest marble are much quarried for roofing tiles, and their surfaces frequently show the mark produced by the ripple of the waves upon them, as they were being deposited. Drifted shells, the casts of sea-worms, the tracks of crabs, the bones, teeth, palates, and scales of fishes and saurians are also found in the forest marble, as may be well seen in the quarries about Wormwood, between Box and Atworth.

Rather more than half the surface of the county consists of chalk, the upper beds being soft and with flints, the lower harder and without flints. The lower beds of chalk contain some clay, and often form a sort of lower terrace for that upper and thicker pure calcareous mass, which consists almost wholly of carbonate of lime. Among the fossils of the chalk are sponges, corallines, sea-urchins, bivalve and other shells; and many forms of oyster, fishes' teeth and palates are embedded in it, but no bones of land animals, or land or river shells.

The upper greensand, gault, and lower greensand are disposed in bands more or less parallel round the northern and western borders of the Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain, and on the north and south margins of the Nadder Valley. But the upper greensand is more than a mere margin to the chalk. The whole of the Pewsey Valley (a remarkable section is in the railway cutting E. of Devizes), a considerable portion of that of Nadder, as well as the small but broad indentation which runs up from the Wily Valley by Warminster to Maiden Bradley and Stourton, are scooped out of the upper greensand: the latter makes Cley Hill a peninsula, and at Stourhead reaches an elevation of more than 800 feet; on the edge of the escarpment King Alfred's Tower is built.

The lower greensand in Wiltshire contains so large a proportion of iron as to render many of its beds capable of smelting; thus traces

of old furnaces have been found at Seend, Bromham, and Sandy Lane, and these could be worked successfully as long as the neighbouring forests of Melksham and Pewsham supplied the necessary fuel. That being exhausted, the ore, however rich, became valueless, till the railway afforded means of conveyance, either of coal to the iron or iron to the coal. Accordingly smelting furnaces have been erected at Seend, where John Aubrey found iron more than 200 years ago. "Underneath this sand," he says, speaking of Seend, "I discovered the richest iron ore that I ever saw or heard of. Come there on a certain occasion, at the Revell 1666, it rained at 12 or 1 of the clock very impetuously, so that it had washed away the sand from the ore, and walking out to see the country about 3 P.M., the sun shining bright, reflected itself from the ore to my eyes. The forest of Melksham did extend itself to the foot of this hill. It was full of goodly oaks, and so near together that they say a squirrel might have leaped from tree to tree. It was disafforested about 1635. . . . Now there is scarce an oak left in the whole parish, and oaks are very rare all hereabout, so that this rich mine cannot be melted and turned to profit." Furnaces have also been erected close to the Westbury Station, where the ore is found in the coral rag, which, through a *fault* there, had been brought into contact with the greensand.

In the neighbourhood of Alderbury, Platford, and Damerham are tertiary remains—a spot of Bracklesham sand at Bramshaw being the highest and most eastern stratum in the county.

Flints are, as usual, found everywhere on the upper white chalk. On many parts of the summit levels of the great chalk platform, particularly on the north, is plastic clay, notably in Savernake forest, and at Great and Little Bedwyn: overlying this are insular beds, sometimes of London clay, and sometimes of Lower Bagshot sands (on elevated points of which last are placed Lord Ailesbury's obelisk and Chisbury Camp). All these are the remains of that wonderful aqueous action which has uncovered all else in the whole of this district.

But the most obvious results of this denudation, in some of the hollows in the downs, about Marlborough and Kennet particularly, are those well known and singular masses of hard white siliceous grit, known provincially as Sarsen stones, Grey Wethers, or Druid sandstone, from their having been employed in the construction of the supposed Druidical temples at Avebury wholly, and Stonehenge for the most part. These, no doubt, once belonged to the lower tertiary strata that formerly covered the chalk, and were left stranded in the hollows, when the looser materials of those beds were swept enward. They are almost peculiar to the Wiltshire Downs, and their appearance is most striking. One trail of them may be seen about four miles from Marlborough on the Bath road; nowhere are they more thick than in the hollow which leads up to and beyond the Devil's Den, but perhaps they show to most advantage mixed with trees in Lockeridge Dene. They are now largely used for paving and other such purposes, the means of accurately splitting them by breaking the outer skin being a recent discovery; the old mode was by fire and water.

In the immediate beds of the streams are drift or alluvial deposits of gravel, flint and chalk rubble in the chalk streams, and of these materials, together with oolitic gravel, in the Lower Avon. In this last mammalian drift, so called, are the remains of red deer, ox, horse, elephant, hippopotamus, and rhinoceros, together with land and freshwater shells. These remains are characteristic of the gravel of the valleys, as distinguished from the drift of the hills. The railway west of Melksham runs through this gravel for two miles, and has conveyed it thence for the purposes of ballasting the line down to Weymouth. The geological collections of Mr. Cunningham at Devizes, a local geologist with more than a local reputation, of the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society, also at Devizes, and of the Blackmore Museum at Salisbury, are of the greatest interest. A large, varied, and well-selected series of specimens from different countries, belonging to the earliest period of human occupation, or the "Stone Age" of antiquaries, renders the Blackmore Museum unrivalled in this country.

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Wiltshire, in the Saxon Chronicles *Wiltunscir*, in Domesday *Wiltscire*, derives its name through the town of *Wilton*, from the *Wil-sætas* (*sætan* = settlers or inhabitants), the West Saxon tribe, who made it their home. Its shape is that of a parallelogram, with its longest diameter from N. to S., and its northern corners rounded off. It is an inland county, without any seacoast; bounded on N.W. by Gloucestershire; N.E., Berkshire; E., Hampshire; S., Hampshire and Dorsetshire; W., Somersetshire. Its greatest length is 54 m., from N. to S.; its greatest breadth, 37 miles, from E. to W. It includes an area of 859,303 acres, or about 1350 sq. m. Its population amounted in 1871 to 257,177; in 1881, to 258,967 persons.

Wiltshire is now almost entirely an agricultural county; dairy farming in N., corn and sheep in S. The N.W. portion was formerly one of the chief seats of the clothing trade; but this has migrated in great part to the northern towns of England. The manufacture is still carried on with some activity in the towns on the river Avon and its affluents, which supply the water-power, as at Trowbridge, the chief seat of the broad-cloth manufacturers, Bradford, Westbury and Melksham. At Wilton are carpet works. Swindon is a vast railway workshop and depôt. There is a good deal of malting and brewing carried on in several of the large towns. The curing of bacon is carried on largely, principally at Calne. Kennet ale is famous. Iron ore is dug in some places, and there are works for smelting at Westbury, and were formerly at Seend. Altogether, the trade of Wilts is considerable, though it cannot compete with the great manufacturing districts.

The county is well supplied with railway communication. The Great Western Railway enters the county near Swindon, and runs S.W. by Chippenham and Corsham to Bath. A branch runs from Chippenham by Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury, and Frome to Weymouth, meeting

the line from Hungerford by Pewsey and Devizes, at Holt, near Melksham; and at Westbury, that by Heytesbury and Warminster from Salisbury. The Great Western throws off branches from Swindon by Minety to Cheltenham, by Marlborough and Savernake to Ludgershall and Andover; by Stratton and Stannington to Highworth; and from Chippenham to Calne. Salisbury is a railway centre, communicating, besides the Westbury line already mentioned, with London direct by the South-Western Railway by Andover, and with Exeter by Yeovil; with Southampton and Portsmouth by Romsey and Bishopstoke; and directly with Weymouth, Poole, and the whole of the S. by Fordingbridge.

In the northern part of the county are three great lines of canal: the Thames and Severn, the Wilts and Berks, and the Kennet and Avon. The two former are joined by the N. Wilts Canal, between Cricklade and Swindon; and the two latter unite S. of Melksham. S. Wilts is almost entirely destitute of canals.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

No county in England can exhibit more numerous and more interesting remains of its aboriginal inhabitants than Wiltshire. The early population dwelt chiefly upon the hills, which everywhere show evident marks of having been densely peopled, and subjected to cultivation. The valleys, obstructed with dense forests and undrained marshes, were as little suited for tillage as for defence, and would be less salubrious than the uplands. Over the downs are scattered, in profusion, British camps and earthworks, boundary ditches and trackways, and foundations of the groups of huts which formed the primæval villages. These elevations are also everywhere tumid with sepulchral barrows and mounds, of varied shapes and dimensions, attesting the long occupation of these grassy hills by the Celtic tribes who are supposed to have first colonised Britain. Traces of their agricultural activity are to be noticed in the "lynchets," or terraces, with which the sloping sides of the downs are scored, evidencing the action of the plough.

The primæval antiquities of Wiltshire and the adjacent counties may be briefly enumerated under the following heads:—

Stone Circles.—Avebury, with its avenues (the chief monolithic example in England); Stonehenge.

Circles, formed by a bank and ditch, the ditch being inside the rampart.

Cromlechs, e. g. "the Devil's Den," and Temple Bottom, near Marlborough (now destroyed); Littleton Drew, near Castle Combe; the sepulchral structures at Lanhill, Luckington, and Shurdington.

"We habitually call the megalithic monuments Druidical, but it is hardly necessary to mention that there is really no sufficient reason for connecting them with Druidical worship" though "both Avebury and Stonehenge were, I believe, used as Temples" (*Sir John Lubbock*).

British Boundaries.—The most remarkable are the Wansdyke and Bokerley-ditch. The *Wansdyke* enters Wilts at Great Bedwyn; goes

through Savernake, and over Marlborough Downs (on St. Ann's Hill it is most perfect) by Calstone, Heddington, Spy Park, Neston Park; crosses the Avon valley at Bathford; makes a circuit on the high ground to S. of Bath, over Claverton Down to Prior Park and English Combe, where it is very conspicuous in the fields W. of the church. It continues, marked by deep lanes, to Stantonbury, of which it formed the N. boundary; and thence by Publow and Bulleton to Maes Knoll; crosses Highbridge Common, runs along Deep Combe Lane and across the meadows to Wonesditch Lane; crosses the Ashton Road at Raymond's Cross, enters Portbury Hundred, traverses Clapton Hill, and ends at Portishead.

British Roads: particularly the Ridge Way, which runs N.E. from Avebury by the camps of Barbury and Liddington. They generally pursue a course along the high land, which the Romans avoided as much as possible.

British Villages, the sites of which are still to be traced on the slopes of Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain. The British pit dwellings, a mile N.W. of Salisbury, on the Devizes road may be mentioned.

Banks and Ditches, which marked out the lines of communication from village to village.

Barrows, studding all the chalk hills and valleys: which have been classed in four divisions—the Long-barrow, probably the earliest form of sepulchral mound in Britain, Bowl-barrow, Bell-barrow, and Druid-barrow—the three first so named from their shape, the fourth consisting of one or more tumuli, enclosed within a circular ditch, sometimes 100 ft. in diameter. The Wiltshire barrows, particularly those which surround the temples of Avebury and Stonehenge, rank amongst the most ancient in England, and are supposed to date from a time preceding the arrival of the Romans. They are also very remarkable for the variety and symmetry of their forms. Nearly all the long barrows stand E. and W., the wider end being towards the E. Out of 11 opened by Mr. Cunnington, 9 had skeletons reposing at the E. end. In chalk districts, where stone was scarce, the bones usually rest on the natural surface of the soil, after the removal of the turf; but where stone is plentiful, the body was deposited in a chamber at the E. end formed of large slabs, as at Littleton Drew and West Kennet. In a few instances a rough pavement of flint nodules was found under the bodies. At Winterbourne Stoke round hollows were found sunk in the chalk, near the bones—perhaps as receptacles for food and drink. Many of these sepulchral mounds were opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who, in his 'History of Ancient Wiltshire,' has given us an interesting account of their contents: how in one he found the skeleton of the child clasped in the mother's arms; in another the hunter, with his faithful dog; in a third the maiden still encircled by her little beads and trinkets; in a fourth the warrior in the midst of his weapons, and with the drinking-cup by his side. Three modes of interment appear to have been pursued. In the first the skeleton reposes on the right side with its head to the W. or N.W., and its legs drawn up; in the

second it is extended at full length; in the third the body has been burnt, and the ashes deposited either in a cist cut in the chalky ground, or within a funereal urn. With these relics of mortality are found the arms and the personal ornaments of the dead—arrowheads of flint, rude axes of stone, beads of glass, jet, or amber, and, occasionally, articles of brass, gold, or iron. These have been more usually found in the bowl or bell-shaped barrows; the interments in the long barrows were more rude. Sir R. C. Hoare's collections are now to be seen in the museum at Devizes.

Entrenchments, viz.: 1. rectangular enclosures, probably the rude defences of villages; 2. camps on elevated points, varying in size and construction, and of which Old Sarum, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury, near Warminster, are remarkable specimens.

Other camps that deserve mention are, Barbury and Badbury, near Swindon, Bratton Castle, Figbury (or Chlorus' Camp), Ogbury, Sidbury, Casterley Camp, and Yarnborough.

The two great centres from which Roman roads diverged were Aquæ Solis (Bath), and Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum). They ran thus:

1. From Bath one road (the Fosseway) went N.E. to Corinium (Cirencester), and S.W. to Wells, where it divided into two branches, one of which passed by Uxela (Bridgwater) to Isca (Exeter), the other by Ischalis (Ilchester) to Moridunum on the S. coast (perhaps Seaton). 2. Another road (Via Julia) from Bath went E. by Verlucio (Sandy Lane, near Heddington) and Cunetio (Folly Farm, near Marlborough) to Calleva (Silchester), and W. by Abona (Bitton), across the Severn estuary to Venta Silurum (Caerwent). 3. From Sorbiodunum one road went N.E. to Silchester; another due E. to Venta Belgarum (Winchester): the continuation of both (Via Iceniana) passed through Vindogladia (Gussage Cow Down near Blandford), Durnovaria (Dorchester), along the S. coast to Moridunum and Exeter. 4. Between Cirencester and Cunetio.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—Of the castles of Wiltshire, so famous in the wars of the 12th and 13th centuries, and invested once more with a temporary interest during the Parliamentary wars, little remains beyond their foundations and earthworks. The mounds of Old Sarum, Devizes, and Marlborough are conspicuous for their bulk, and of the two former some small fragments of building in walls and vaults still exist. Castle Combe is reduced to a heap of rubbish. Trowbridge has completely passed away. Of Ludgershall only a small fragment survives.

The only castle of which there are any considerable remains is that of Wardour, and it is of considerable architectural interest. Farleigh Castle, being just over the border, is claimed by the county of Somerset.

II. *Domestic*.—Of domestic architecture few, if any, counties possess

so many and such admirable specimens. Besides the more remarkable examples, of the chief of which a list is given below, a vast number of old manorhouses are scattered over the county, usually degraded into farmhouses, and more or less dilapidated, and, we regret to add, yearly diminishing before the march of modern improvement. In N. Wilts nearly every parish possesses one or more such specimens, with a long gabled front, two-storied porch, stone-mullioned and labelled windows, stone-tiled roofs, and the remains of handsome oak panelling within.

The following list gives the more important domestic remains:—

Fourteenth Cent.—Stanton St. Quentin; Place House, Tisbury; Woodlands, Mere; Barton farm, Bradford; Wardour Castle.

Fifteenth Cent.—Great Chaldfield; Norrington; Pottern; Salisbury, houses in the Close and City; South Wraxall (remodelled in the reigns of Henry VIII., Elizabeth, and James).

Sixteenth Cent. and later.—Bradford, Duke's House; Charlton; Corsham; Littlecot; Longleat; Longford; Wilton.

The magnificent modern mansions of Bowood, Wilton House, Grittleton, Stourhead, Trafalgar, and Wardour, are celebrated as well for their architecture as for the works of art some of them contain.

III. The *Monastic* foundations of Wiltshire have been almost entirely swept away. Malmesbury preserves a large fragment of its magnificent church, and some small portions of the conventual buildings. Lacock retains its conventual buildings, including refectory, kitchen, dormitory, chapter-house, of the original foundation, among modern alterations, and the beautiful cloisters of the 15th cent., Bradenstoke has some excellent remains of domestic buildings of the 14th cent. The traces of Monkton Farleigh are very insignificant.

CHURCHES.

This county presents at least two different kinds of churches, varying according to the locality and the nature of the material. In the northern part, and some parts of the south-western district, good stone abounds, and consequently the churches are large and fine, with well-finished exteriors. In the southern and eastern parts, where there is a chalk soil, flints are the common material, and the churches are smaller and more homely in character. Wooden belfries or diminutive steeples often occur; but the latter are sometimes unusually situated. Many are interesting from presenting early architectural features, both Norman and Early English. In some parts we find both chalk and stone combined, and a very mixed character in the churches.

In the north and western districts are several large churches, approaching in their general features those of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire; and even in smaller examples the work is often good and well finished. Among these are several which have the exterior chiefly of Perpendicular character, and some lofty and rich towers, as Cricklade St. Mary, Calne, and Devizes St. Mary.

Cruciform churches are not very uncommon in this county; some on rather a large scale, as Cricklade St. Sampson, Bishop's Cannings, Devizes St. John, Purton, Downton, Heytesbury, Great Bedwin.

Two churches in the county, Purton and Wanborough, present the unusual feature of two steeples, one in the centre, the other at the west end. An elegant pyramidal bell-turret is not uncommon in the north-western district, as at Acton Turvill, Sutton Benger, Corsley, Biddestone, and Great Chaldfield.

Though in the district where good stone is used the prevailing external features may be Perpendicular, there is abundance of work in the earlier styles, of the best character.

There are some steeples of the "packsaddle" form, as at North and South Wraxall and Winsley. Stone spires are not very uncommon, but, excepting the magnificent one at Salisbury, not remarkable for height or beauty. Examples are at Chilmark, Salisbury St. Martin, Lacock, Trowbridge, Chippenham, Box, Purton, Bishop's Cannings, &c.

The finest Norman work is at the Abbey Church, Malmesbury, but a good deal of this church is of transition to the next style. There is also good Norman work at Devizes St. John, Devizes St. Mary, Corsham, and Preshute; and transitional in Ogbourne and the nave of Great Bedwin. At Britford and North Barcombe is some work of Saxon character.

Salisbury Cathedral is of course unrivalled as an Early English example, on a very large scale. Bishop's Cannings and Potterne are fine churches of this style, almost unmixed; and very good work may be seen also at Purton, Downton, Amesbury, Cricklade St. Sampson, Collingbourne-Kingston, Salisbury St. Martin, and the chancel of Great Bedwin.

There is very fine Decorated work in Cricklade St. Sampson, where the windows have beautiful tracery, and the tower and transepts of Lacock, but there is probably less of this than of the other styles in this county.

Of Perpendicular work are the nave and tower of Devizes St. Mary, the nave and chantry of Lacock, Cricklade St. Sampson, Salisbury St. Thomas, the tower of Marlborough St. Peter, and the principal part of those of Bradford, Trowbridge, and Mere. In the northern district a rich canopied niche crowning the apex of a gable is not uncommon, as at St. John's, Devizes, and St. Mary's, Lacock.

Stone groining is not uncommon in this county — of Norman date in the chancels of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes. Early English, at Bishop's Cannings, Urchfont, and Marlborough St. Peter. At Urchfont is also a porch entirely of stone. There are groined W. porches at Westbury and Lacock. There are several Norman fonts. Sedilia are not very frequent, but piscinæ of various kinds and aumbryes are common.

Churchyard crosses are not unfrequent, and at Salisbury, Castle Combe and Malmesbury are very good examples of market crosses.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Swindon.—G. W. Rly. Works; Camps of Barbury and Liddington Castle; Wanborough Ch.

Chippenham.—Bradenstoke Priory; Draycot Cerne; Bowood (pictures); Malmesbury Abbey; Charlton Park (pictures); Castle Combe; Grittleton House (pictures).

Calne.—Bowood; Lansdown Column; Maud Heaths Column; Bremhill; Lacock Abbey and church.

Melksham.—Lacock Abbey; Spye Park; Bromham; Great Chaldfield; South Wraxhall.

Corsham.—Corsham Court.

Cricklade.—Down-Ampney.

Marlborough.—Churches, College, Castle Hill; Savernake; Tottenham House; Littlecote; Avebury; Silbury Hill; Devil's Den; Wansdyke.

Devizes.—Churches, Castle Hill, Museum; Roundway Down; Bishop's Cannings; Pottern; Urchfont.

Bradford.—Ch., Old Ch.; Duke's House; Bridge; Barton Farm; Monkton Farleigh; S. Wraxall; Great Chaldfield; Westwood; Farleigh Castle; Hinton Charterhouse; Norton St. Philips.

Trowbridge.—Ch.; Steeple Ashton Ch.; Farleigh Castle.

Salisbury.—Cathedral; Close; Bishop's Palace; Churches; Cross; Old houses; Museum; St. Nicholas' Hospital. Old Sarum; Amesbury; Stonehenge. Wilton House (pictures) and Ch.; Bemerton; Longford Castle (pictures); Wardour Castle (pictures, ruins); Clarendon; Trafalgar House; Bishopston Ch.; Groveley Works; Yarnbury; Compton House.

Tisbury.—Wardour Castle; Hindon; Fonthill.

Heytesbury.—House (pictures); Ch.; Cotley Hill; Knook Castle; Scratchbury; Battlebury; Oldbury; Boyton Ch.

Warminster.—Cley Hill; Longleat (pictures); Horningsham; Maiden Bradley.

Westbury.—Ch.; Iron Foundries; Bratton Castle; Edington Ch.; Heywood House.

DORSETSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Dorsetshire has been justly described as “perhaps in a small compass the most representative of Southern English counties.” Its classical division is into Felix, Petræa, and Deserta,—the happy vales, the stony heights, and the deserted heaths. The only doubt is as to the classification of the chalk; but if we may place it under the second head, we have a general description of the physical features of the county; and the three Latin epithets may be geologically translated into the clays,

the chalks, and the sands. Between Lyne and Sherborne, scenery of this kind popularly associated with Devonshire occurs, such as Devonshire itself can only provide on a larger scale; while the chalk downs of the East are equally characteristic, and the coast line presents at Lyme, Portland, and Purbeck curiously independent beauties.

Felix.—The county has been blessed, perhaps, above measure. It boasts of the title of “the garden of England.” It has been described, “both for rider and for abider, one of the pleasantest counties in England;” and a royal critic, who had seen many lands, and never said a foolish thing, declared, on returning from Plymouth, “that he had never seen a finer country in England or out of it.” Charles II. was returning from Plymouth—that is, took a western view of the county; and it is in the west that the eulogy is most deserved. There are the rich genial marlstone soils in the neighbourhood of Bridport and Beaminster, drained by the Brit, in which no system of cropping is observed because they can bear anything and grow anything. Nor need the Marshwood Vale, drained by the Char, be excepted, though its clay be cold and distinguished above all others in the county in stiffness, for it is thence that the best Dorset butter is sent to London. The wheat is excellent, and there is not a stone in the whole vale. “They are obliged to send for stones to Bothenhampton to mend their roads.” The oak timber in it is of a large growth and excellent quality. There, too, is the vale of the Dorset feeders of the Yeo about Halstock, Chetnole, and Yetminster, of the Yeo itself at Sherborne. There, too, is the vale of Blackmoor, or the country between the hills about Lillington, the Caundles, and Stalbridge on the N. and W., and the Dorset chalk heights on the S. and E., watered by the W. and E. branches of the many-branched Lidden, with the Cale between them; a fine rich grazing and dairy district, which will rear oxen as bulky as those in the rich sandstone vales and alluvial marshes of Somerset, and grow such oaks as may be seen at Hermitage, Middle Marsh, Glanville’s Wootton, Buckland, Mappowder, and Melcombe Park, and hardly elsewhere in the W.; but in the centre of it more suitable for hunting than for residence. No towns, hardly any villages, are in it. Buckhorn-Weston in N., Lidlinch at the bend of the valley, Holwell, Holnest, Leigh, Chetnole in S. portion of it, complete the catalogue.

At Parnham, near Beaminster, at Dewlish, Bingham’s Melcombe, and round Bridport, very fine elm timber is grown, which implies a lighter soil than the oak. At West Woodyates is a magnificent walnut tree, planted more than a century ago by the then Lord Londonderry, which the tenant used to call his hundred-pound tree, as it yielded him a per cent. in walnuts annually.

The river system corresponds with its vales; that of Blackmoor watered by the Lidden and Cale; those of the Yeo, which flows N. into the Parrett and the Bristol Channel; of the Axe, which bounds the county on W. for some miles; of the Char, which rises near Pillesdon Pen and empties at Charmouth; of the Brit, which rises on the S. chalk slopes near Beaminster, and flows into Bridport Harbour; of the

Bredy, which has a similar origin, and joins the sea at the W. end of the Chesil Bank. "Felix" is perhaps one-fourth of the county.

Petræa.—The chalk enters the county between Cranborne Chase and Shaftesbury in N.E., extends to Beaminster in the S.W., thence to Abbotsbury in S., and touches the sea at Swyre Head (near Lulworths and Ballard Down (separating Swanage and Studland bays), two noteworthy points, 18 miles apart, on either side of the Isle of Purbeck. The central mass, about one-third of the county, is divisible, like that in Wilts, into N. and S. downs, the river Stour being the boundary, and Blandford the capital of the N., Dorchester of the S. portion. The chief eminences on the N. escarpment are Hod Hill, Hambledon Hill, Okeford Hill, Bell Hill, Bulbarrow (927 feet), White Hill, Great and Little Ball, Revels, Dogberry, High Stoy (891 feet), Evershot, Rampisham Down, Horn Hill (this, with the exception of some outlying masses, indicating its former more extensive prevalence, is the W. extremity of the chalk). Along the S. escarpment are Chilfrome Down, Eggardon, Little Bredy Down, Black Down (817 feet), Whaddon Down, Bincombe Down, Chalbury, Chaldon Down. The highest hills in the Purbeck portion are Swyre Hill (669 feet), Nine Barrow Down (642 feet). Corfe Castle is, from its isolation, the most striking. Lewesdon Pen (960 feet) and Pillesdon Pen (940 feet), W. of Beaminster, are the highest points in the county. The chalk hills, though to some extent similar in feature to those of Wiltshire, have not the same broad flat downs, but consist of comparatively narrow ridges, from the tops of which the sea can be seen to the south, and the hills of North Dorset and Somerset to the north. They are crowned, as elsewhere, with camps and earthworks, such as Maiden Castle and Poundbury, near Dorchester; Weatherbury Castle, near Milborne St. Andrew's; Hambledon and Hod Hills, not far from Blandford; Badbury Rings, near Sturminster Marshall; Rawlsbury near Bulbarrow, and others.

If to the chalk you add the sea-coast, S. of a line drawn from Bridport in W. to Ballard Down in E. (though you must except and assign to Deserta the belt of Hastings Sand between Worbarrow and Swanage bays) you have "*Petræa*," or half of the county.

As usual, the streams intersect the chalk ridges. The Stour is the chief river of the chalk, and of the county. Rising on the borders of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, at Stourhead, it receives the two branches of the Lidden and the Cale, and enters the chalk by a transverse fissure between Okeford Hill and Hod Hill at Stowerpaine, passes directly through the chalk by Blandford to Wimborne, where it is joined by the Allen, which also has made its way through the chalk from Cranborne Chase and Pentridge Hill in N. by St. Giles and the Crichels. Almost parallel with the Stour, 10 miles W., is the Trent or Piddle, rising in Alton on the S. side of the N. escarpment by Little and Great Ball Hill, giving its name to Piddle-trenthide, -hinton, and -town, Tol-, and Aff-piddle, in its course. Again, further W. the Frome, similarly rising in S. side of N. escarpment between Corscombe and Evershot, receives tributaries from Rampisham Down on W.; and the Cerne from

Revels Hill on E. passing Dorchester, unites with the Piddle on entering Poole Harbour, the common estuary of the two rivers, having between them Wareham, which gives to them the name of the Wareham N. and Wareham S. streams.

Deserta is another quarter of the county on E., "a thousand furlongs [once] of sea, [now] of barren ground, ling, heath, furze, anything." It is an equilateral (18 miles either side) triangle, of which the points are Cranborne, Dorchester, Studland. Wareham is in the centre of it. The N. portion of it drains through the Stour into Christchurch Bay, the remainder through the Piddle and Frome, all chalk-streams in their origin, into Poole Harbour.

II. GEOLOGY.

In one particular Dorsetshire geology is noteworthy. Three purely provincial names—Kimmeridge clay, Portland oolite, and Purbeck stone—are typical formations, and have taken their place among geological terms. The range of rocks is not so extensive as that of Somersetshire, but is perfect and continuous, as far as it goes, from the Bagshot sands down to the lias—that is to say, throughout the lower eocene, the cretaceous, and the oolitic systems; there is not an important member of the series missing. The economic uses of these rocks are various. The quarries of Portland have provided a breakwater at their foot, the casing and forts of which are also built of it. They have given to London many of its finest buildings—St. Paul's Cathedral, and many other of Sir Christopher Wren's churches, Goldsmiths' Hall, and the Reform Club House. The dark colour and high polish of Purbeck shell marble may be seen in the slender shafts and columns of the Temple Church, St. Mary's Redcliffe, Wells, Gloucester, and Salisbury Cathedrals, in which last, however, though not exposed to the outer air, it has been found to scale, and is being replaced by Devonshire marble. The freestone at Marnhull has been used in the neighbouring churches, and the greensand of Shaftesbury, Cerne Abbas, and elsewhere on the margin of the chalk, affords good building materials. The chert is used for rough building purposes, and is excellent material for roads. The clay pits between Wareham and Corfe yield annually thousands of tons of fine clay to the manufacturers of Staffordshire and Scotland, and even of Spain and Holland. The Smedmore shale of the Kimmeridge clay used to furnish both naphtha for lamps and carbon for the disinfection of manure; but in the former respect it has been superseded by the American oils. The chalk makes the best of lime. The lias also has an economic use in making hydraulic cement. But it is in its fossil remains, whether animal or vegetable, such as the saurians in the lias at Charmouth and Lyme, or the oolite bed of Portland, that the geology of Dorset is most interesting.

The lower lias and marlstone are found in the W., flowing round the chalk of the Blackdown Hills, Pillesdon Pen, Lewesdon Hill, Coneygore Hill, Stonebarrow Hill, and some other such islands, to the sea from

Lyme to Bridport. To this belong the valleys of the Char and Brit. The lower oolitic sands, rubbly freestone, forest marble, and cornbrash, in the E. of the county, descend from Somerset in a waving band between Stalbridge and Sherborne. A low line of hills E. of Yeovil, of which Babylon Hill is the centre, belongs to them. They pass southward by Bradford Abbas, Lillington, Ryme, Yetminster, Closeworth, Melbury, and Halstock, skirt the chalk by S. Perrot, Mosterton, Beaminster, and Powerstock, and so to the sea at Burton Bradstock; then along the coast by Puncknoll, Langton Herring, and Radipole.

At the halfway house between Yeovil and Sherborne there is a quarry, which should be visited for its intrinsic interest, and as offering a typical section of the lower oolite in Dorset. Underneath the superficial mould are 9 feet of freestone, called by the quarrymen "white lamas," and beneath that a fossil band of about 2 feet; then a bed of hard blue stone about 4 feet, with sands underneath them.

The line of road, from 2 miles N. of Wincanton, in Somersetshire, to 1 mile S. of Stalbridge, in Dorsetshire, about 12 miles, traverses exclusively, with two unimportant exceptions, a narrow band (less than half a mile broad) of cornbrash, passing through the villages of North and South Cherington, Horsington, Templecombe, and Henstridge.

There is a valley, about 4 miles broad, stretching from Wincanton southward for 9 miles; then turning westward for 11 miles as far as Melbury Osmund, and lying for 15 miles between oolitic hills,—the cornbrash road just mentioned on the W., and coral rag where the Stours (W. E. and Provost), Marnhull, Sturminster Newton, and Haselbury are situated on the E.; and for 5 miles between oolitic hills on N., and chalk and greensand on S. This valley, in fact the Blackmoor vale, watered by the Cale, in the portion leading southward, by the western branch of the Lidden in its western portion, is Oxford clay. There are inconsiderable spots of Oxford clay on the S.—indeed, Melcombe Regis is on it—but this favourite watering-place owes its popularity to other causes than its geological position. Weymouth and Wyke Regis, close by, are on the coral rag.

In the N. bulge of the county, and between coral rag and chalk, is a mass of Kimmeridge clay, in which Gillingham, Motcombe, and Shilling Okeford are situated. Here is the E. branch of the Lidden, uniting with the Cale at Stalbridge Mill, and with the W. Lidden at King's Mill, and thence pursuing its course through Sturminster Newton and Blandford. But the spot from which this rock derives its name is on the E. part of Weymouth Bay, reaching as far as St. Aldhelm's Head. It is also the base on which the Portland stone rests, and is seen at Portland Ferry and in N. of the island. It contains an inflammable oil, which renders it so combustible that it is called Kimmeridge coal, is used as fuel, and even sometimes takes fire spontaneously.

Besides the coral rag and calcareous grit already mentioned, there are sections of these strata on the coast at Weymouth and Wyke Regis, and a band of it about a half mile broad, overlooking Weymouth Bay from Abbotsbury on W. to Jordan Hill on E.

The Portland oolite, with the Portland sands underlying it, is found in the island whence it takes its name, in spots of Weymouth Bay, at Ringstead, Durdle Door, and the portals of Lulworth Cove. The fossil contents of the Portland oolite—shells, saurian bones, and coniferous wood—are of the highest interest. The Purbeck marble next occurs in the so-called isle of that name, first in a narrow band on the W., then spreading from Kingston and Worth Matravers to Durlstone Bay and Peverel Point. To the N. it is bounded by a band, about a mile broad, of Hastings sand and Weald clay, from Worbarrow Bay on W. to Swanage Bay on E., with Corfe Castle in the centre. Between them the chalk, greensand, and Weald clay are parallel and nearly straight lines, running W. and E. across the Isle of Purbeck.

The greensand makes well-nigh the circuit of the county, in the usual irregular and ragged fringe to the chalk. Entering from Wiltshire at Shaftesbury in N., it proceeds S. for 9 miles as far as the bottom of Hod Hill and the 2 Okefords (Child and Fitzpaine), thence westward for 34 miles to the very limits of the county at Lewesdon and Pillesdon Pen, the highest points in the county; then turning S.E. by Beaminster, and running for 48 miles, it makes its exit at the N. side of Swanage Bay. A line drawn from this point to Hod Hill measures 22 miles. In the N. slopes, where it enters the chalk, the fertile nooks and valleys of the greensand are full of interest and beauty. One such valley is traversed by the railway from Evershot to Maiden Newton, whence branch others to the W.; another such valley extends from Minterne to Cerne Abbas; another contains the two Melcombes. The central mass of Dorset chalk occupies one-third of its area, extending from Pentridge in the N.E. to the neighbourhood of Beaminster and Abbotsbury in the S.W. (this country is full of faults); thence proceeding S., it touches the sea at Swyrehead and Ballard Down. Its course from Abbotsbury to Swyrehead, 15 miles, is determined by a great W. and E. fault, which brings it into contact with Purbeck beds, Portland stone and sand, and Kimmeridge clay. These two points, 18 miles apart, are noteworthy. Thence, with a curve inland, it reappears and forms the bold head of St. Aldhelm, extending along the coast as far as Durlston Head.

The tertiary system corresponds with *Deserta*, which has already been described as an equilateral triangle, of which the sides (each 18 miles) are from Cranborne to Piddletown Heath (within 2 miles of Dorchester), thence to Studland, and thence to Cranborne again. It consists of plastic clay bordering the chalk all the way from Cranborne to Piddletown Heath, and thence to the sea at Swyrehead and Studland. To this succeed London clay and Bognor beds, also in bands and spots, Wimborne Minster occupying one of them. In the centre of the triangle, with a base extending along the coast from Studland to Poole, are Bagshot sands.

The local museums at Dorchester, Weymouth, and Corfe Castle should be visited,

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Dorsetshire—in the Saxon Chronicles *Dorsæta*, in Domesday *Dorsete*—takes its name from the original inhabitants, the Dorsaetas; who, in turn, derive their appellation in its Latinized form of Durotriges, waterside dwellers, from the two British words, *Dwr* = water, and *tre*, a place or dwelling; probably because the head-quarters of the tribe were by the side of some inlet or piece of water; perhaps the Poole inlet, running up to Wareham. On the N.E., it is bounded by Wiltshire; on the E., by Hampshire; on the N.W., by Somersetshire; and on the W., by Devonshire. The sea is its southern boundary. The length from E. to W. is 55 m., and its breadth from N. to S., owing to its irregular outline, varies from 5 m. to 40 m. It contains an area of 615,783 acres, or about 962 sq. m. Its population in 1871 was 195,774; in 1881, 190,975 persons.

The chief resources of Dorsetshire are agricultural. The dairy produce is large; and there is a great deal of corn grown. About Bridport hemp is much cultivated, to supply the rope and twine works of that town. There are silk-throwing mills at Sherborne, and elsewhere. The ship and yacht builders of Poole are favourably known. Poole is the chief port of the county. Its trade is almost entirely coasting. The quarries of Purbeck and Portland are of great celebrity for their excellent building stone. There is a very extensive manufacture of pottery and tiles in the vicinity of Wareham and Poole, and potters'-clay and pipe-clay are largely dug, and exported from the same district.

The southern part of the county is traversed from E. to W. by the South-Western Railway, which runs by Wimborne and Wareham to Dorchester; where it is joined by a branch of the Great Western from Yeovil, which continues S. to Weymouth and Portland. Branches are thrown off to Poole, and at Maiden Newton to Bridport. The Somerset and Dorset line traverses the western part of the county from N.W. to S.E., running from Temple Combe, by Sturminster and Blandford, to Wimborne. The main line of the South-Western Railway runs through the N. of this county for a short distance, in the neighbourhood of Sherborne.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

Few parts of England can show so many remnants of primitive antiquity as Dorsetshire, or indicate so clearly what Britain must have been before the invasion of the Romans. No less than 25 hill fortresses of (probably) præ-Roman date are enumerated by Hutchins. The grandest specimen of these—hardly to be equalled in England—is Maiden Castle, near Dorchester. After this, we may mention Badbury Rings, near Wimborne (Mons Badonicus), Eggardon,

near Bridport; Flowers Barrow, near Lulworth; Rawlsbury Rings, near Bulbarrow; Hod Hill and Hambledon Hill, overlooking the valley of the Stour; Woodbury and Weatherbury; and Pillesdon.

The hills are studded with sepulchral barrows, which have been, almost without exception, opened and ransacked. A full account of them may be found in Mr. Sydenham's paper on 'The Dorsetshire Barrows' ('Archæologia,' vol. xxx.), and Mr. C. Warne's 'Celtic Tumuli of Dorset.' The "Cerne Giant" may also be mentioned as probably of Celtic date. The Dorsetshire tumuli are distinguished for the paucity and simplicity of their contents; some few, which are non-sepulchral, are simple cenotaphs. The body was either buried entire or burnt, and the few whitened bones encased in a cist or urn, and placed in the centre of the mound, sometimes covered by a flat stone, or packed round with flints. The prevailing form is the bowl-shaped tumulus, frequently surrounded by a shallow fosse, with a slight external vallum. The bell-shaped tumulus is less common. Twin barrows are of occasional occurrence. The most beautiful form is the Druid or disc-shaped barrow, of which the best examples are at Woodyates, Longbredy, and Winterbourne. The long barrow is seldom seen, but it is found at Bere Regis, Blandford, and Pimperne, at Chettle and the Gussages. The whole are purely Celtic. A complete Necropolis at Rimbury, in the parish of Sutton Poyntz, was examined by Mr. Warne, when nearly 100 urns were exhumed, and a large number of skeletons found placed singularly *under* the urns. This was evidently the burial-place of the powerful tribe which occupied the adjacent hill-fortress of Chalbury.

Dorsetshire abounds in the traces of the dwellings of the original Celtic or British inhabitants. These are sometimes mere pits or hollows in the turf, which formed the base of a wattled hut. The best examples are found at Bondsleigh, Ibberton Park, and near Jackman's Cross. The traces of more extensive villages are seen at Melcombe Horsey, and on the downs of Affpiddle, Askerswell, Cattistock, Eastbury, or Tarrant-Hinton. Those on Blandford Down, E. of the old telegraph, and the site Vindogladia (Gussage Cow Down), may be dignified with the appellation of towns. Of fortified towns the best examples are Badbury, Bindon Hill, Buzbury, and Chalbury.

Roman remains are frequently to be met with scattered over the county. The Via Iceniana (Icknield way) traversed the county from Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum) to Durnovaria (Dorchester) and thence westwards to Exeter, with vicinal ways to Ischalis (Ilchester) on the Fosseway, Moridunum (perhaps Seaton), and Clavinium (Jordan Hill, near Weymouth), and Lyme. The best preserved castra are at Cattistock, Duntish, Hod Hill (within the Celtic camp), and Milborne. Dorchester, by its plan and the remains of its fortifications, declares itself Roman "castra stativa." The amphitheatre of Maumbury is undoubtedly a Roman work. Poundbury Camp may be so also, but is perhaps Danish. The tessellated pavements at Dorchester, Weymouth, Sherborne, Dewlish, Rampisham, and Frampton, speak of a long and

peaceful Roman occupation. Mosaic pavements have been also discovered at Lenthay Green, Halstock, Preston, &c.

There are few unmistakeable marks of the Saxon settlement beyond the local names, and there is still less that can be assigned to the Danish marauders, though Wareham and its vicinity so frequently suffered from their devastating inroads. The finest Saxon tumuli are on the downs at Woodyates. The walls of Wareham have been attributed to the same period, but are more probably British.

Poundbury is ranked by Mr. Warne among Danish camps, and the Long Bury Barrow near Slaughtergate in Gillingham parish among Danish barrows.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—With the magnificent exception of Corfe, one of the very finest remains of military architecture in England, and Sherborne, which still preserves considerable remains of Bishop Roger's Norman Keep and Gatehouse, the castles of Dorsetshire have almost entirely passed away, leaving little beyond grassy mounds and some fragments of walls. At Dorchester and Shaftesbury we have merely the site; at Wareham one angle of a rectangular enclosure, and slight remains at Sturminster-Newton. A considerable portion of Bowland-Arrow Castle, Portland, is standing. Portland, Sandsfoot and Lulworth castles are of the 16th cent.

II. *Domestic*.—Dorsetshire is very rich in picturesque stone houses. Almost every village offers some examples of more or less value, nor are there wanting buildings of high architectural interest. The chief are—

Fourteenth Cent. — Woodsford Castle, a most interesting and perfect example, sufficient to atone for the absence of others of this date.

Fifteenth Cent.—Parnham; Sherborne.

Sixteenth Cent.—Athelhampton; Bingham's Melcombe, Canford Manor (part); Clifton Maubank; Maperton; Melbury; Melcombe Horsey; Sherborne, Almshouse, &c.; Wimborne St. Giles; Winterborne Herringstone; Wolveton, Hanford, Cranborne, Lower Walterston, Chantmarle, Upper Cerne.

Of more modern mansions, some of much architectural value, we may name Bryanston, Canford Manor, Charborough, Kingston Lacy, More Criche, Over Compton, Sherborne Lodge.

III. *Monastic*.—Sherborne Minster deserves the first place among the monastic foundations of Dorsetshire. The magnificent church is perfect, and some interesting remains of the conventual buildings are incorporated in the grammar school. Of Wimborne only the church exists; of Milton Abbas, the church and the abbot's hall. The foundations alone remain of Bindon Abbey. Of Cerne Abbey we have part of the abbot's house, a fine gatehouse, and barn. At Abbotsbury, the barn and part of the gatehouse. Ford Abbey preserves, in the

fabric of a modern house, large portions of the cloister and conventual buildings of a Cistercian foundation.

CHURCHES.

Here the prevailing style is Perpendicular. Many churches seem at first sight to exhibit this style alone, in which specimens of the other styles may be found in individual features. In some parts of the county there is abundance of good stone, and the churches are often well finished externally ; but in others flints are much used, sometimes chequered with stone.

In the Isle of Purbeck, and near the coast, Norman work often occurs, and there are a few small churches, which are pretty complete specimens of that kind, as Studland and Worth. There is also good Early English work to be found, especially in chancels, as at Buckland Newton.

Of Decorated there seems to be less than of any other style, though there is a fine example of it in portions of Milton Abbey.

On the borders of Somersetshire, the Perpendicular is richer and the execution better. The towers approximate to the ornamental character peculiar to that county, but they are generally of a good style throughout Dorset, almost invariably having a turret on one side and often pinnacles. The spire is very rare. Iwerne Minster and Winterborne Steepleton are perhaps the only ancient specimens. Panelled belfry arches with groined tower ceilings are very common in the western district, and also rich and elegant pierced parapets.

The churches are not generally very large, with the exceptions of the minsters of Sherborne and Wimborne, which last has a central and a western tower, and they often have but one aisle. There is usually a chancel arch, but in most cases the clerestory is wanting. The roofs are often coved, and are sometimes of a rich character, as at Bere Regis and Marnhull. There are crosses at Rampisham, Sherminster Marshall and Stalbridge. There is not much screen-work, and perhaps no rood-loft, though the rood-steps are generally found. There are several instances of hagioscopes, but the sedilia, piscinae, &c., are not usually of remarkable character. Some tolerable pieces of painted glass are to be found, and several early fonts.

Sepulchral brasses are rare, but there are some fine tombs and some good monumental effigies.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Shaftesbury.—St. Peter's Ch.; Views from Park, and Castle Hill; Cranborne Chase.

Wimborne.—Minster; Canford Manor; Kingston Lacy (pictures); Badbury Rings; Charborough House; More Cricchel; St. Giles' Park; Woodlands; Monmouth's Ash; Horton.

Poole.—Harbour; Tile Works; Branksea Island; Bournemouth. Excursion to Swanage and Corfe.

- Wareham*.—Ch.; Engraved Stones; Walls. Corfe Castle; Creech Barrow; Creech Grange; Swanage.
- Wool*.—Bindon Abbey; Lulworth Castle; Winfrith; Lulworth Cove. Bere Regis. Pits on Affpiddle Heath.
- Dorchester*.—St. Peter's Ch.; Fordington Ch.; Tessellated Pavement in Gaol; Museum; Walks round Walls; Amphitheatre; Poundbury; Wolveton; Charminster; Maiden Castle; Herringstone; Blackdown; Hardy's Monument; Nine-Stones; Hellstone; Bridehead; Kingston Russell. Woodsford Castle (near Moreton Station). Cerne Abbas, Remains of Abbey; Puddletown; Athelhampton. Walterston.
- Weymouth*.—Sandsfoot Castle; Wyke Ch.; Chesil Bank; Isle of Portland; Verne Ford; Breakwater; Quarries; Convict Establishment; Portland Castle; Bow and Arrow Castle; Caves Hole.—Abbotsbury, Swannery, Decoy, St. Catherine's Chapel. Chalbury; Osmington. Excursion to Lulworth Cove, and Swanage.
- Isle of Purbeck*.—Swanage; Studland Ch.; Agglestone; Corfe Castle; Godlingstone; Quarries; Tilly Whim; St. Aldhelm's Head and Chapel; Encombe; Kingston Ch., Kimmeridge; Gadcliff; Worbarrow Bay; Lulworth Castle; Flower's Barrow; Arish Mell; West Lulworth Cove; Durdle Door.
- Bridport*.—Ch.; Old Houses; Rope Walks. Eggardon Hill; Burton Bradstock; Charmouth; Whitechurch; Vale of Marshwood.
- Beaminster*.—Ch.; Parnham House; Broad Windsor; Lewesdon and Pillesdon hills.
- Lyme Regis*.—Ch.; Cobb; Saurian Remains; Pinhay Landslip; Conie Castle; Lambert's Castle; Uplyme.
- Maiden Newton*.—Ch.; Frampton Ch. and House; Wynford Eagle; Ram-pisham Ch.; Chantmarle House; Melbury House and Park.
- Blandford*.—Bryanston; Camps of Hod Hill, Hambledon Hill, Buzbury, Crawford Castle. Iwerne Minster; Fontmell Magna; Milton Abbey; Bulbarrow; Rawlsbury.
- Sturminster*.—Castle; Marnhull Ch.; Nash Court (pictures).
- Stalbridge*.—Ch.; Cross; View from Park; Vale of Blackmoor.
- Sherborne*.—Minster; Grammar School; Hospital; Castle; Lodge (pictures); Cemetery. Lewston Park; Dungeon; Round Chimneys; Glanville's Wootton Ch.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

I. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The county, though its physical aspect is much varied, naturally arranges itself in three main divisions; a *central basin* between two *hilly districts*, one on the W., the other on the N.E. The Mendips and Quantocks are the E. and W. boundaries of the central portion, which is in fact co-terminous with the physical basin watered by the Parrett, the

Brue, and the Axe, or the Bridgwater Level, as it is sometimes called; and contains no elevations other than the low-lying Polden Hills (about 300 feet high, and 20 miles long), and such islands as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Wearyall Hill, Wells Tor, and the like, rising out of the flat alluvial deposit. It is generally describable as an irregular parallelogram, about fifteen miles either way, divided into two parts by the Poldens. The division between the Polden Hills and the Mendips includes Glastonbury turf-moor, while the other division, to the west of the Polden Hills, contains King's Sedgemoor.

The hilly district on W. consists of the Quantock Hills, of which Will's Neck, the highest point, reaches 1270 feet. The other chief heights are—Thorncombe Barrow, Huxley Beacon, Danesborough (1022 feet), Fire Beacon, Bagbarrow Station, Cothelston (1060 feet), and Bancombe Hill. The Quantocks are about 14 miles long, and 4 or 5 wide. The steep escarpment on the western face is in a great measure occupied by woods and plantations. The eastern slope is more gradual, and is intersected by the beautiful valleys of the Seven Wells and Hunter's Combe. Also in W. are the Brendon Hills, among which are Haddon Hill (1140 feet) and Dunkery Beacon, the highest point in Somerset (1697 feet). The Brendons are connected on N. with the bold head of Bossington Beacon, Porlock Hill, and the coast line; on the W. with the forest of Exmoor, the connecting ranges of which are the Winsford and Hawkridge hills.

The elevation of Dunkery, though in itself inconsiderable and of an easy gradient, is relatively commanding. From its top you may see right through Somersetshire, from end to end, some 60 miles. The curious physical feature of central Somerset—*islands of hill rising from the flat*, such as Brent Knoll, Glastonbury Tor, Brean Down, and Worle Hill—is conspicuous. The entire coast line from Weston to Lynton is traceable, except where Minehead interrupts it.

The N.E. hilly district is very different in its character from that in the West. With the exception of the Mendips, it does not consist of distinct lines of hill, but of irregularly disposed heights which gradually slope away to the rivers Frome and Avon, which drain the district on the north. The Mendips from Whatley, near Frome, in E., to Brean Down in W., are about 34 miles long, rising in some parts to more than 1000 feet. Their chief heights are Worle Hill, near Weston, Banwell, Sandford, Dolberry, Burrington Ham, Wavering Down, Shutshelve, Blackdown, North Hill, Pen Hill, Milton Hill (above Wells), Maesbury Castle, and Beacon Hill (above Shepton Mallet). The straight sky-line of the Mendips, interrupted in W. by the Cheddar gorge, is one of the most striking features to the eye. The chief of the irregular hills are in the neighbourhood of Bath and Bristol, such as Falkland Knoll, near Norton St. Philip; Lansdown (813 feet), Claverton, Combe, and Odd Downs, near Bath; Dundry (790 feet), Broadfield Down (with its Cleve and Brockley combes), S. of Bristol, and Leigh Down W., with its St. Vincent's Rocks.

What Dunkery is in the W., Lansdown Racecourse is in the E. The

great oolitic escarpment trends thence N.E. along the Cotswolds, S.W. towards the Mendips, which meet it at right angles: due W. the eye rests on the outlier of Dundry; due E. it passes over the N.W. Wiltshire valley to the chalk downs hung like a curtain on the horizon. Along the sea coast there are not many bold headlands, but rather easy lines of beach and bay; sometimes wooded, as at Quantock's Head, almost to the water-line, or ending in a face of low cliff, as at Watchet and Cleve. The point of Brean Down, a bold bar of mountain limestone, running athwart the six miles of sandy beach which begins at Burnham Church, and Minehead Hill, with its tongue-like termination of Hurlstone Point, are exceptions to this series of soft scalloped curves of coast line. —(*Sat. Rev.*)

The watershed line, sometimes in Somerset, sometimes in Dorset, enters the former county at Alfred's Tower, on the chalk; passes on the oolites between Wincanton and Bruton by Bratton; turns south at Milborne Port by Purse Caundle and Glanville's Wootton; rejoins the chalk again above Glanville's Wootton, and follows it by Evershot, Corscombe, Mosterton, Shave-lane Hill, Wind-whistle Hill, Chard, Combe St. Nicholas, and the Blackdown Hills on the kindred green-sand; where, leaving the cretaceous series, it passes through the new red sandstone to White-ball Hill, through carboniferous limestone at Hockworthy, joins the Devonian rocks at Clayhanger, and so by the Brendon Hills to Dunkery Beacon and Porlock. Thus are the waters which flow through Somerset and Dorset divided between the Bristol and English Channels.

The main system of drainage is that of the central basin watered by the Parrett (the principal river in the county, and rising 1 mile beyond its S. border), with its tributaries:—1. The Ille on the left bank; 2. The Yeo (one source being in Dorset, and the other in Somerset) on the right bank; 3. The Tone (rising in the S. slope of Brendon Hill, and flowing through Taunton Dene) on the left bank; 4. The Cary (rising near Castle Cary) on the right bank. The Brue, also rising on the border of Dorset and Somerset, and flowing by Bruton and Glastonbury, cannot be truly called a tributary of the Parrett, but empties into the same estuary as that river, from which it is separated by the low line of the Poldens. The Axe may be said to be appurtenant to the Mendips, rising in Wookey Hole, flowing at their foot, and passing into the Bristol Channel between Uphill and Brean Down.

The W. hills are watered by the brooks which flow into the sea at Watchet, Dunster, and Porlock. The two sources of the Exe (the Barle and the Exe) are in Exmoor on the very confines of the county. The N.E. district is drained by the Avon and its tributaries. On entering the county, and before reaching Bath, it receives the Box Brook, the Midford Brook, and the Frome. The Chew joins below Bath above Keynsham,

II. GEOLOGY.

The geology of Somersetshire includes specimens of nearly all the formations which appear on the surface of England from Wales to Norfolk—the Devonian in the hills of Exmoor, Brendon, and Quantock; the old red sandstone and mountain limestone in Mendip; the coal-measures among the hills south of Bath; the new red sandstone and marls in the vale of Taunton Dene and at the base of many of the hills; the lias, which bounds the Bridgwater level like a sea-cliff, or rises out of it in patches like islands, as Brent Knoll; the oolite formations, extending over the south and east of the county; the greensand and chalk, which appear yet further S. in the Crewkerne and Chard hills, in the Blackdown Hills, and in the tableland between Somerset and Devon; and, lastly, an extensive alluvial deposit, partly covered by peat and fen land, which fills up the Bridgwater Flat.

This alluvial deposit is partly *marine* (though this part is small and intermittent), flat mud-banks by the sea-shore, such as the Bridgwater Flat, properly so called; but chiefly *estuarine* and *fluvial*, such as the Burnham Level, Huntspill Level, the flats from Portishead to Aust Passage, Nailsea and Kenn moors, and others, which extend from Weston to the inland ranges.

The chalk formation in Somerset occurs but in three outlying patches, extending into the county from Wilts and Dorset, one of greensand just capped with chalk (Roddenbury Hill) on the east side of the Somerset and Weymouth Railway between Frome and Bruton; another more considerable, of which Cricket St. Thomas is the centre, to the west of Crewkerne, separated by the tributaries of the Axe from the third and larger mass of chalk and greensand, which occupies the country about Chard, and extends over the Blackdown Hills. In these last are found concretionary layers 12 or 18 feet thick, affording the scythe and hone stones which form an important branch of manufacture, and are sent all over the kingdom. Kimmeridge clay forms a narrow ribbon, bordering the chalk from north of Witham Park to south of Pen Selwood. The Oxford clay occupies a considerable extent of the eastern part of the county, from Standerwick E. of Frome to Henstridge and Stalbridge, though nearly cut into two parts at Wincanton by the approximation of the cornbrash and coral rag. The lower oolites are found in the isolated hill of Dundry in the north, in the district round Bath, descending in a band, more or less interrupted and irregular, between the Oxford clay and the lias, entering Dorset between Stalbridge and Sherborne, and passing to the south by Yeovil and South Petherton as far as Ilminster. They make elevations rounded or flat topped, such as Dundry crowned by its church, Lansdown to the north of Bath, Odd Down to the south of it, Small Down N.E. of Evercreech, and Cadbury Castle, both of which last, capped with Roman entrenchments, overlook the vale land of Mid-Somerset. The lias occupies an important position in the centre of the county; the flat lands around Dundry, Keynsham, Bath, Timsbury, Stone

Easton, N. and S. of the Mendips, Shepton Mallet, Pilton, Glastonbury, Somerton, Curry Rivell, are a large semicircle of places on the N. edge of the lower lias, which stretches back to the S. as far as Bruton, Castle Cary, Yeovil, Crewkerne, and Ilminster. The Poldens are a tongue of lower lias mounds, rather than hills; while there are upper lias elevations in the Pennards, Glastonbury Tor, Brent Knoll, and the higher grounds about Yeovil, South Petherton, and Ilminster, all more or less outliers which indicate in their isolation the extensive denudation to which this whole district has been subjected.

“The district round Ilminster presents considerable variety in its geological character. A bird’s eye view, taken from N.W. of the town, would show at no great distance the lofty range of the Quantocks of Devonian age, while at their base, stretching towards Ilminster, might be found the variegated and red marls of the Keuper. On these, 5 miles distant, at Beer Crowcombe, are Rhœtic beds. Resting on the latter succeed the Saurian and other limestones and marls of the lower lias, which, though in great part covered by drift, reach to the foot of the hill W. of Ilminster. Within half a mile E. the middle and upper lias, on which the observer stands, may be seen passing under the oolitic sands and the inferior oolite, while 2 or 3 miles to the S. the latter are covered by the range of greensand and chalk, which, passing from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne round Chard, is then continued in the Blackdown hills of Devonshire. The best districts for a study of the upper members of the Triassic group in the W. of England are along the numerous escarpments bounding the moorlands of Wedmore, S.W. of the Mendips, along the whole line of the Polden Hills to Bridgewater, and again from Compton Dundon by way of Somerton, Langport, and Hatch Beauchamp, towards Taunton. Throughout the greater part of these districts the lower lias occupies the table-land, the Rhœtic beds coming in immediately beneath, and skirting the edge of the escarpments.”—(*C. Moore.*)

The stones in the lower lias are quarried, the large flat slabs at Kington are used as sides to cowsheds or piggeries, floors to barns and farm-kitchens, and pavements to streets; there is a fine grained blue limestone, which will take a polish, and is handsomely marked; below it is a bed of hard whitish limestone or white lias, belonging to the Rhœtic beds, which is used for mantelpieces by us, and was fashioned by the Romans into the tesserae of tessellated floors.

An important section in the railway cutting at Queen Camel shows a succession of 260 beds, 375 feet thick, every one of which may be identified, and where at one view is seen the passage upward of the Keuper, Rhœtic, and Liassic beds. “The distinction between the two last is so marked, that you may at once place your hand on the uppermost Rhœtic white lias. It extends uninterruptedly from Lyme Regis throughout Somersetshire, and a geologist travelling by express train may readily detect it in the railway cutting at Saltford near Bath.”—(*C. Moore.*)

The new red sandstones (upper and lower) occupy the country

between Dundry and the Mendips; the Upper Yeo and the Chew flow through them. Crossing the Mendips on the south of the range, they contain Wells, Westbury, Cheddar, and Axbridge; then, running along the southern base of the Poldens and bordering the lias, they envelop the Quantocks, extend to the N. beyond Minehead, occupy the country of which Taunton and Wellington are the centres, and finally leave the county, wrapping round the edge of the Blackdown Hills, and filling a great part of the fine vales which are seen stretching in every direction from those heights. The dolomitic conglomerate is found at Bristol, in patches N. and S. of the Mendips, and at Milverton.

The Somersetshire coalfield extends from Bristol to the neighbourhood of Frome on the one hand, and from the suburbs of Bath to the Mendip Hills on the other, covering in all an area of about 150 square miles; the chief pits are in the Nailsea (now out of work), the Radstock, and Paulton districts. Coleford, N. of Leigh-on-Mendip, rests on a band of the millstone grit, nowhere a quarter of a mile broad. "The northern part of the Bristol and Somersetshire coal-field forms a trough lying N. and S., narrowing towards its northern limits, and expanding towards the opposite direction, till E. of Bristol it reaches a width of seven miles; the beds rise at high angles along and beyond the edge of the basin. South of Bristol the boundary of the coal-field, marked by the range of the limestone hills, sweeps round to the westward, and is lost under the sea beyond Nailsea Moor, near Clevedon, in Somersetshire. South of this the coal-measures underlie the liassic formation of Dundry Hill, and encircle the large mass of carboniferous limestones near Congresbury. Over the greater part of this area the coal-formation is buried at moderate depths under newer horizontal strata."—(*E. Hull.*)

The carboniferous limestone is one of the most striking formations in the county; in the north it occurs on the coast from Portishead to Clevedon, then turning east to Leigh Down, and bending in a northerly direction, leaves the county at Leigh Woods, where it is pierced by the gorge of the Avon. There is a group of limestone hills between Blackwell and Wrington; but the great stretch of this rock is in the Mendips, from Frome on the E. to Brean Down, Worle Hill, and Middle Hope, on the W. by the sea; continued to the Flat and Steep Holms now actually in the sea; and to different points in Glamorganshire on the other side of it. The limestone is full of caves and fissures, produced by the action of rain-water full of carbonic acid gas dissolving its substance; and in several of these cavities bones of extinct animals have been found, as at Banwell and Wookey Hole. The old red sandstone is seen at Little Elm, on the E. extremity of the Mendips, whence it is continued W. for some miles, and is the oldest formation and most elevated portion of this range. Its largest development is N. of Shepton Mallet and Cranmore, and, again, on North Hill and Blackdown.

The backbone of the Mendips, corresponding to what is now called the "Ridgeway," consists of Old Red, and extends from Shepton Mallet

on E. to Whatley on W. Against this saddleback rests carboniferous limestone at a great angle, in some places vertical. To this succeed the coal-measures at the same angle, with numerous faults running through them; Old Red, Rhoetic, and Liassic beds are successively deposited horizontally on the upturned edges of the limestone. The mighty agent which caused this disturbance, and uplifted these formations, some 20,000 feet thick, in one place upheaving and doubling back the coal-measures on themselves, so that the coal is worked *beneath* carboniferous limestone, was a volcanic dyke, of which the discovery belongs to Mr. Moore. It emerges from beneath the old red sandstone at E. end, near Stoke Lane; and E. and W. of a line of which that place is the centre, there is for a distance of 7 miles an uninterrupted anticlinal. From the general physical character of the Mendips, the dyke is probably coextensive with the range.

To old red sandstone also belong the Quantock Hills and all the country W. of Stogumber and Wiveliscombe, including Haddon Down, Brendon and Croydon hills, and so westward to Exmoor.

The geological collections at Bristol, Taunton, and Bath, should be visited, particularly the latter, which owes its existence and excellence to Mr. C. Moore, a distinguished geologist, no mean "citizen of no mean city."

III. DESCRIPTION, COMMUNICATIONS, INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Somersetshire, in the Saxon Chronicles *Sumersetescir*; in Domesday *Sumersete*—derives its name from its early inhabitants, the Sumersaetas. It is a maritime county, bounded on the N.W. by the Bristol Channel; on the S.W., by Devonshire; on the S.E. and S., by Dorsetshire; and on the E., by Wiltshire. Its form is so irregular that it is difficult to give any just estimate of its length and breadth. It comprises an area of 1,083,282 acres, or 1677 sq. m. Its population was in 1871, 463,483 persons; in 1881, 469,010.

Somersetshire is rich in agricultural produce. Its dairy farms are celebrated, and its cheese, especially that which takes its name from Cheddar, of high excellence. The warmer valleys, especially towards the W., near Taunton, abound in orchards, and a large quantity of cyder is produced. The principal manufactures are those of woollen cloth, worsted, and silk, at Frome, Twerton, and Wellington; of gloves, at Yeovil, Martock, and Taunton; of lace, at Chard; of linen, at Crewkerne; crape, at Dulverton and Shepton Mallet; of glass, at Nailsea; of bricks, draining-tiles, and the celebrated Bath-brick, at Bridgwater, where are also large engineering works.

The northern part of this county is traversed by the Great Western and Bristol and Exeter Railways from Bath to Wellington, by Bristol, Bridgwater, and Taunton; which send off branches N. to Portishead, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare, Burnham, and Watchet; and S.E. from Yatton to Axbridge, Cheddar and Wells; from Durston to Yeovil; and from Taunton to Chard. The centre of the county is intersected by the Somersetshire and Dorset line from Highbridge, by Glastonbury

to Temple Combe, whence it proceeds to Wimborne and Poole, uniting the Bristol and English Channels. The S.E. part of the county has rly. communication by means of the Great Western branches from Frome to Yeovil and Axminster, and from Witham, by Shepton Mallet to Wells. There is also a line from Bristol by Clutton and Radstock to Frome, and one from Bath by Radstock to Shepton Mallet and Evercreech junction.

The Kennet and Avon Canal enters the county from Bradford, and joins the Avon at Bath. The Somersetshire Coal Canal has two branches, one commencing at Paulton, the other at Radstock, and both communicating with the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Somersetshire is rich in quarries and mineral productions. The Bath quarries supply one of the best building-stones in England. There are lead-mines near Wellington, and on the Mendip range, where also calamine was formerly dug. Coal is found at and near Radstock in East Mendip. There are slate quarries at Wiveliscombe.

IV. ANTIQUITIES—BRITISH, ROMAN.

This county is excelled by very few in the number and interest of its primæval and Roman remains. The crests of many of the hills are strengthened with earthworks forming encampments, often of great extent. It is difficult, if not impossible, to assign a date to these works; but it is probable that many of them are of immense antiquity, long anterior to the Roman invasion, in their original formation, and have been occupied in succession by the forces of the various contending parties during the early ages of English history. Conspicuous and characteristic examples of these encampments may be seen at the three Cadburys, Dolbury, Maesbury, Hamdon Hill, Neroche Castle, and Orchard Castle. The vestiges of British villages are to be seen on Ben Knoll above Wookey, Worlebury, and Pen Selwood, &c. The Wansdyke may be traced in its course in many places, especially at Englishcombe, near Bath. The stone circles of Stanton Drew are monolithic, with avenues of the same type as that of Avebury. The other (so-called) Druidical remains that deserve mention are the Fairy's Toot in Nempnett parish and the Littleton Sepulchre.

The chief vestiges of early habitations are those on Worle Hill, above Weston-super-Mare, on Hampton Down above Bath, on Dundry Hill, S. of the ch., at Charterhouse on Mendip, on the hill above Bleadon and Hamden Hill.

Groups of sepulchral barrows stud the ridges of many of the hills. Near Priddy, on the Mendip, are two groups, one of 9, another of 8 barrows. Maes Knoll, on Dundry Hill, is a barrow of immense size.

British roads traversed the county in the form of *ridgeways*, many of which can still be traced.

(1.) Crossed the Avon between Burghwalls and Stokeleigh camps, and pursued its way along Leigh Down to Cadbury camp above Tickenham, where it was joined by a road from Portishead, and proceeded S. across the vale to a camp above Yatton; thence crossing

the marsh, it traversed Mendip from Sandford by Shutshelve to Cross; thence over the Axe by Brent Knoll to Pawlet, at W. extremity of Polden Hill, where it joined a branch of the road from Old Sarum to Uphill. Here it crossed the estuary of the Parrett to Combwich, and near the fort on Cannington Park Hill it coincides with the turnpike road from Bridgwater to Stowey, and climbs by a valley S. of Over Stowey to the top of the Quantocks; descended and climbed Willet Hill, and ran along the ridge of Brendon Hill, and thence into the valley of Exe, and to Barnstaple.

(2.) The British trackway from the Humber to Axmouth entered the county at Threshire Stones, 1 m. W. of Colerne, Wilts, and went by the base of Little Solsbury Hill to Bath, where it crossed the Avon under Beechen Cliff, and climbed the hill by Holloway, crossed Wansdyke near Odd Down turnpike, and, ascending and descending, ran along the high ground to Radstoke, near which it took the line of the turnpike-road to Shepton Mallet and Wells. It descended into the great vale of Somersetshire, and took a direction to Ilchester, leaving the Belgic and British fort on Hamdon Hill to l., crossed the Parrett, and split at Watgore; one branch ascended Whitedown, near Windwhistle, and proceeded by Tytherleigh to Streetford Bridge over the Axe, and to Axminster. The other crossed the Ile to Ilton and Broadway, and thence to Castle Neroche.

(3.) Another trackway went from Minehead to Neroche, and thence over Buckland Down to Streetford.

(4.) The last to be noticed led from Neroche to Honiton. This was paved, and was dug up some years since, and the material used for the turnpike road.

The chief British fortresses are those of Stantonbury, Maes Knoll at Dundry (both on the Wansdyke), Cadbury Camp, those of Portbury, Portishead, Dolsbury, Dinghurst, and Brent Knoll. The camps of Hampton, above Bath, Little Solsbury, Blackness Hill (near Mells), Tedbury, Wadbury, and Newbury, the Beacon on Mendip, Maesbury, Worlbury, Danesbury commanding the Parrett, Dunkery Beacon, Cadbury, Hamdon, and Neroche.

The Romans availed themselves of the old British trackway to construct the Fosseway through Bath and Ilchester, to Moridunum on the S. coast. The *via ad Axium*, connecting Axium on the Bristol Channel with Sorbiodunum or Old Sarum, runs from Uphill to Oldmixton, is very indistinct over Bleadon Hill, on S. side of Wenthill. It crosses the road from Bristol to Bridgwater at 14 m. between Churchill and Cross, and runs beneath Banwell Hill direct to Shipham, leaving Dolbury l.; shortly after, it arrives at a rocky cleft, cut to allow it to pass, traversing a valley carried alongside of the Blackdown ridge, then to Charterhouse, where it makes an angle to S., passes many tumuli, and leads direct to a solitary inn, known as the "Castle of Comfort," near which are 4 large British circles, a group of 9 barrows and a group of 8, crosses the road to Wells at Green Ore Farm, goes by Maesbury camp, crosses the Fosse at Beacon Hill. Here it is very

indistinct for a considerable distance, but is supposed to go by Gear Hill, Maiden Bradley, Kingston, and Monkton Deveril, and crosses the road from Shaftesbury to Warminster, near 6 m. from W. Near this it goes round the tumulus N. of Lower Pertwood Farm. 15 m. from Old Sarum the road is perfect. It runs through Great Ridge Wood, crosses the Western Road between Deptford Inn and Chicklade in extensive earthworks at Stockton Wood corner, thence through Grovely Wood; crosses the river Wylde; proceeds through Chilhampton; crosses the Avon, running through Stratford to Old Sarum.

The Roman remains at Bath are of unusual magnificence, and have been found in great abundance. Ilchester supplies copious marks of its Roman origin, and the traces of Roman occupation are plentifully scattered over the surface of the county. Tessellated pavements have been found at Camerton, East Coker, Pitney, Whatley, &c. The lead-mines of Mendip were worked by the Romans, of which we have evidence in the pigs of lead with Roman inscriptions found at Wookey, Blagdon, &c.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—The castles of Somersetshire, always a peaceful county, were few, and they have almost entirely disappeared. Of Bristol, just over the border, for many centuries one of the strongest and most important in the kingdom, no more than the name and site, and some few fragments of walls and buildings, remain. Of Castle Cary, famous in the civil wars of Stephen's time, nothing is to be seen beyond some grassy mounds. Taunton preserves its gateway and hall, and other portions among modern alterations. Of Bridgwater all has passed away but the name. Dunster was chiefly rebuilt in the reign of Elizabeth, but preserves several portions of earlier work. The chief remains are at Nunney, of the 14th cent., and Farleigh Hungerford (very scanty) of the 15th.

II. *Domestic*.—This is the richest district in England for domestic remains, especially those of the 15th cent. In some parts of the county every village has one or more houses, or parts of houses, worthy of notice. Owing to the excellence of the stone, they have been better preserved than in many parts of England. The following list gives the most remarkable examples, to which the unrivalled specimens at Wells must be added:—

Fourteenth Cent.—Meare (manor-house and fish-house), Martock; Compton Dundon; Doultong; Lytes Cary; Chapel Cleve; Clevedon Court; Clapton-in-Gordano (partly destroyed).

Fifteenth Cent.—Banwell Court; Beckington; Blackmoor, near Carington; Chew Stoke (parsonage); Congresbury (parsonage); Croscombe; Glastonbury; Hinton St. George; Hutton; Kingston Sey-

mour; Lytes Cary (part); Nailsea; Norton St. Philips (George Inn, &c.); Norton-sub-Hamdon; South Petherton; Stoke-under-Hamdon; Tickenham; Yatton.

Sixteenth Cent.—Barrington Court; Brympton; Bristol (houses); Dunster; Halsway; Stogumber; Montacute; Nettlecombe; Quantockshead; Sandford Orcas.

III. *Monastic.*—Of the magnificent foundation of Glastonbury the remains are lamentably small. A portion of the church; the abbey gateway; abbot's kitchen, and barn, comprise the whole. The less important religious houses of Cleeve Abbey, Hinton Charter-house, Muchelney, and Woodspring, retain a larger portion, comparatively, of their buildings, and deserve more attention (especially Cleeve Abbey) than till lately they have met with. A small fragment is all that stands of the Priory of Taunton. The chapel of the small Austin priory of Stavordale is incorporated with a modern farmhouse.

CHURCHES.

The churches of Somersetshire, previous to the Perpendicular period, appear to have been of no great pretensions. They seem usually to have wanted both clerestories and aisles. They were often cruciform, with a central tower. An octagonal tower, sometimes central (as at N. Curry and Doultong), sometimes at one side (Somerton), was frequent in some districts.

There is abundance of fine stone used in the churches of this county; but in several cases a coarser material of blue lias is employed, which does not admit of fine work. These two materials often appear in the same church. In the south-east district, it is the fashion to white-wash the whole of the exterior.

Some churches have only one aisle, as Pilton, Huish, &c.; and there are specimens in which the tower is between the nave and the chancel, yet without indications of Norman work, *e. g.* Butleigh and Shapwick. Sometimes there are two transeptal chapels, of the same height as the aisles, as Glastonbury St. John; and sometimes there is only one, as Shepton Beauchamp, Fivehead. When the tower is situated on the side, it is generally of Perpendicular character. There are some cruciform churches, with central towers, as Bath Abbey, Crewkerne, Yatton, Milborne Port, Ilminster, Dunster Ditchat, South Petherton, &c. Barrington is also cruciform, with a central octagonal tower. Others are cruciform, with a western tower, as Bridgwater, Weston Zoyland, &c. Octagonal towers may be seen at Somerton, Doultong, and Barrington; at Barton St. David, Tintinhull (on N. side), Ilchester (west end of the nave), South Petherton (in centre of cross), Podymore (at west end), and Bishop's Hull. Taunton St. Mary Magdalene is remarkable for having double aisles on each side. The chancels frequently belong to an earlier building of an inferior scale, and harmonise badly with the later and more stately nave and chantries.

This county has a peculiarly distinctive character in its ecclesiology, displaying itself in a general prevalence of Perpendicular work, often of a richly ornamental character, but especially so in the towers, many of which are noted for their magnificence. The more elaborate have often pierced battlements and pinnacles, the latter of very exquisite workmanship, and occasionally multiplied to the number of twelve or sixteen. The belfry windows are generally double, and sometimes triple, and filled with elegant stonework pierced with quatrefoil panelling—an arrangement which, if not quite peculiar to this county, is scarcely found except in those which adjoin it, as Gloucester, Dorset, and Wilts.

“The Perpendicular work of the county,” writes Mr. Freeman, “is of the most magnificent character. The typical form is a lofty and elaborate W. tower, disengaged from the aisles, often vaulted within, and nave and aisles with or without clerestory; very commonly a S. porch as high as the aisles, a high roof, and a comparatively insignificant chancel of earlier work, with Perp. chapels on each side. Polygonal turrets are frequent. The roofs are various, but different forms of the coved roof are typical. The interiors are rich in screens and other wood work. The work is generally superior in the N. to that in the S. part of the county, owing to the superior quality of the stone admitting more delicate chiselling. The towers, which are the great glory of the county, may be ranked under three typical forms. (1.) The Taunton type, with a staircase turret at one corner, and double buttresses at the others, all the pinnacles being of equal height, the tower being divided into stages by horizontal string-courses. *Examples*—St. Mary Magdalene and St. James, Taunton, Ille Abbots, Bishop’s Lydiard, and Huish. (2.) The Bristol type, with a prominent turret, crowned with a single spirelet rising above the rest, St. Stephen’s and St. Werburgh’s, Bristol, Yeovil, Banwell, Cheddar. (3.) The Wrington type, which dispenses with the staircase turret and horizontal divisions, and is panelled with two enormously lofty belfry windows, with pinnacled turrets of the same height; Wrington, St. Cuthbert’s Wells, St. John’s Glastonbury, and North Petherton. Spires are very unfrequent, and where they exist are often imperfect, as (formerly) at St. Mary’s Redcliffe, Yatton, Shepton Mallet, Minchinhampton. Perfect spires exist at Congresbury, Bridgwater, Frome, Croscombe, Castle Cary, Trent, Whatley and Doullting.”

But though the Perpendicular is the prevailing style of Somersetshire, and most churches, externally at least, seem to belong to it, there will often be found early work in the chancel, generally a transition from Early English to Decorated; and some chancels are wholly of that character. Norman work is uncommon; but there are a few fine specimens.

There is some singular work in Milborne Port, which exhibits some ribs and straight-sided arches, apparently Saxon. There is Early Norman work in the same church; some of a rich and singular character, at Compton Martin, and portions of the same style at Stoke-under-Hamdon, East Stoke, West Harptree, Bathford, Montacute, Swell, and Uphill.

The tower of Clevedon, and portions of West Harptree, partake of both Norman and E. E. character.

There is E. E. work in the transepts of Barrington, at Montacute, Tintinhull, Shepton Beauchamp. Of the same style are Pilton, Chedzoy, Portishead, Portbury, Keynsham, East Stoke, West Quantockshead, St. Martin Fivehead, the chancel of Martock, the arcades of Shepton Mallet and St. Cuthbert, Wells. Transition to Decorated appears in the chancels of St. Decuman's, Wellington, Ruishton, &c. The Decorated work in this county is not generally of a very rich kind. Specimens will be found in the churches of Frome, Ditcheat, Evercreech, Shapwick, Butleigh, Meare, Priddy, West Charlton, Shepton Beauchamp, Wookey, Compton Dundon, Somerton, parts of Yatton, and a fine porch at Bridgwater. In many of the Early English and Early Decorated windows the interior arch has a kind of feathering, like that which sometimes occurs in Oxfordshire.

The Perpendicular examples are so numerous that it is difficult to specify them. The finest and most considerable churches of this style are Bath Abbey, Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Glastonbury St. John, Yeovil, Crewkerne, Ilminster, Cheddar, Martock, Kingsbury, North Petherton, Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Leigh-on-Mendip, Mells, Dunster, which last has, however, some earlier indications. At Low Ham is a chapel, built in 1624, having a chancel, aisles, and rood-screen.

The parapets are usually embattled, sometimes with good open paneling. The arrangement of the Perpendicular piers is very uniform. They are lighter than in Devon, but the capitals of the shafts are less richly sculptured. Large porches are very common, sometimes with good groining. Panelled arches are of constant occurrence.

The rood-turret is generally a marked external feature; and this county has several fine rood-screens of wood with parcloles to the north and south aisles, on some of which the loft still remains. Examples are found at Kingsbury, Long Sutton, Norton Fitzwarren, Bridgwater, Curry Rivell, West Quantockshead, &c.

Very fine and rich specimens of carved bench-ends are found at Bishop's Lydiard, Crowcombe, Croscombe, Stogumber, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, Norton Fitzwarren, Weston Zoyland, Cheddar, &c. At Croscombe is a good deal of wood screen-work, and carved benches of later character. Enriched wooden pulpits remain at Bridgwater, Long Sutton, Queen's Camel, North Petherton, and stone pulpits at Cheddar, Stogumber, Meare, Glastonbury St. Benedict, Shepton Mallet, Baltonsborough, Shapwick, &c.

There is some good late stained glass at Cheddar, Kingsbury, Curry Rivell, and of earlier character at St. Decuman's.

Enriched roofs abound, as at Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Martock, Shepton Mallet, Somerton, North Petherton, Long Sutton, &c.

The lychnoscope, or low side-window, is rare, as the aisles are so often continued along the chancel; but the chancel arch is generally wide and springing from corbels. There are some instances of hagioscopes.

There are several early fonts, and a good many of the Perp. period, but there is no very distinctive character about them.

There are not many sepulchral brasses, but at St. Decuman's are some curious examples of late date. The place occupied by sepulchral brasses in other counties where good and durable stone is rare, is here taken by incised slabs and other stone memorials. The variety of these is great, including raised effigies in high and low relief, incised figures, and raised and incised crosses. (See R. W. Paul's *Incised and Sepulchral Slabs of N.W. Somerset*.)

Some fine and rich tombs occur at Yatton, Cheddar, Backwell, Dunster, Long Ashton, &c., but chiefly of Perpendicular date.

There are sacristies at the east end of the chancel, and below the cill of the east window at Langport, Ilminster, Crewkerne, North Petherton, Kingsbury, &c.

The county affords an interesting field to the campanologist. Most of the churches contain at least six bells of large size and fine tone. Many of these have been recast but some remain of pre-Reformation date.

There are many excellent examples of churchyard crosses, as at Bishops Lydeard, Spaxton, Montacute, Doultong, Chewton, Mendip, &c.

Market crosses of mediæval date are found at Shepton Mallet, Crowcombe, Hinton St. George, Taunton, Cheddar, Croscombe, &c., and of later style at Dunster, Somerton, Martock, Ilchester.

VI. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Bath.—Abbey Ch.; Baths; Pump Room; Literary Institution; Roman Remains; Assembly Rooms; Circus; Crescent. Lansdown; Prior Park; Combe Down; Kelston Round Hill; Wick Rocks; Claverton; Wellow; Stony Littleton; Bitton.

Bristol.—Cathedral; St. Mary Redcliffe; Mayor's Chapel; St. Stephen's; St. James's; Blackfriars; Museum; Old Houses; Walls; Floating Harbour; Basins; Blind Asylum; Müller's Orphan House; Clifton Downs; Suspension Bridge; Gorge of the Avon; Leigh Woods; Leigh Court (pictures); Blaise Castle (pictures); Kings Weston; Penpold Point. Dundry; Stanton Drew; Chew Magna. Ashton Court; Portbury; Portishead.

Clevedon.—Clevedon Court; Old Ch.; Walton Castle. Weston-in-Gordano; Clapton-in-Gordano; Tickenham; Cadbury Camp; Brockley Combe; Cleeve Combe.

Yatton.—Ch.; Parsonage. Congresbury Ch. and Parsonage. Wrington Ch.; Barley Wood.

Weston-super-Mare.—Worle Hill; Kewstoke; Woodspring Priory; Uphill Old Ch.; Brean Down. Banwell Ch.; Bone Caves; View from hill. Hutton Cave.

Axbridge.—Ch.; Cheddar Ch., Caverns and Cliffs. The Mendips, mining operations; Combes; Burrington; Blagdon; Wedmore; Brent Knoll.

Wells.—Cathedral; Bishop's Palace; Deanery; Archdeaconry; Close; Vicars' Close; St. Cuthbert's Ch. Wookey Hole; Ebber Rocks.

Glastonbury.—Abbey Ruins; Abbot's Kitchen and Barn; Tor; Wirrel Hill; Churches; George Inn. Sharpham; Meare Manor-house and Fish-house; Street, manufacturers and Saurian remains; Butleigh Court.

Somerton.—Ch.; Lytes Cary; views from Kingsdon Hill, Somerton Hill.

Ilchester.—Ch.; Roman remains; Limington.

Yeovil.—Ch.; Old Houses; Summerhouse Hill. Trent, Old House, Ch., Brympton; Montacute, House, Ch., Priory, St. Michael's Hill. Hamhill; Stoke-sub-Hamdon; Bradford Abbas Ch.; Clifton Maubank.

Martock.—Ch.; Old House. Kingsbury Ch.; South Petherton, King Ina's Palace; West Stoke.

Langport.—Ch., Huish Episcopi Ch., Hanging Chapel, Museum. Muchelney Abbey; Low Ham Chapel; High Ham; Aller; Parkfield.

Bridgwater.—Ch.; Bath-brick Works; Eager. Sedgmoor; Chedzoy; Weston Zoyland; Cannington. Nether Stowey; the Quantocks; Enmore Castle; Halswell House. Boroughbridge; Othery; Isle of Athelney; Burnham.

Taunton.—St. Mary Magdalene's Ch.; St. James's Ch.; Castle; Museum; Shire Hall. Hatch Court; Cothelstone; Crowcombe (pictures); Willsneck; Watchet; Blue Anchor; Cleve Abbey; N. Curry.

Wellington.—Ch.; Monument on Black Down; Robin Hood's Butts; Nynehead Court; Cothay Manor.

Ilminster.—Ch.; Barrington Court; Donyatt Ch. and Manor; Jordans; Dowlishwake; Broadway; Castle Neroche; Ilton; Ile Abbots.

Chard.—Ch.; Lace Factories; Ford Abbey; Snowdon (view); Strayn Hill (view).

Crewkerne.—Ch.; Hinton St. George; Cricket St. Thomas.

Frome.—Ch.; Cloth Mills; Card Mill; Vallis; Nunney Castle; Lullington Ch.; Longleat; Mells; Ammerdown (view); Marston House; Orchardleigh; Witham.

Bruton.—Ch.; Grammar School; Hospital. Redlynch; Stourhead; Alfred's Tower; Batcombe; Jack's Castle.

Wincanton.—Stavordale Priory; Roundhill; Pen Selwood; Penpits; Orchard Castle.

Castle Cary.—View; Alford Ch.; Cadbury Camp; North Cadbury Ch.; Queen's Camel Ch.

Shepton Mallet.—Ch.; Manufactories; Cross. Doultling Quarries; Ch.; Barn. Evercreech Ch.; Pilton Ch. and Barn; Maesbury Camp; Gurney Slade. Croscombe Ch.; Old Houses.

Dunster.—Ch.; Cross; Castle; Grabhurst Hill (view); Conegar Hill (view). Minehead; Holnicote; Porlock; Dunkery Beacon; Bossington Beacon; Culbone; Exmoor.

Dulverton.—Mount Sydenham; Exmoor; Pixton Park; Haddon Down; Bampton; Waterwood.

HANDBOOK

FOR

WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, AND SOMERSETSHIRE.

ROUTES.

* * * The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the places are described.

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
1. London to Bath, by <i>Swindon</i> , [<i>Highworth</i>], <i>Wootton Bassett</i> [branch line to <i>Malmesbury</i>], <i>Chippenham</i> [Bouwood, <i>Calne</i>], <i>Corsham</i> , and <i>Box</i> (G. W. Rly.)	2	9. Salisbury to <i>Wimborne</i> , by <i>Downton</i> and <i>Fordingbridge</i> [<i>Cranborne</i> , <i>Cranborne Chase</i>] (S. W. Rly.)	135
2. Swindon to <i>Cheltenham</i> , by <i>Purton</i> , <i>Cricklade</i> , and <i>Minety</i> (Rly.)	27	10. Salisbury to <i>Shaftesbury</i> , by the <i>Vale of Chalk</i> (Road) ..	140
3. Swindon to <i>Andover</i> , by <i>Marlborough</i> ,] <i>Avebury</i> , <i>Silbury Hill</i> , <i>Savernake</i> , <i>Collingbourn</i> , and <i>Ludgershall</i> (Rly.)	29	11. Salisbury to <i>Westbury</i> , by <i>Wilton</i> , <i>Heytesbury</i> , and <i>Warminster</i> [<i>Longleat</i>] (G. W. Rly.)	142
4. <i>Chippenham</i> to <i>Frome</i> , by <i>Melksham</i> [<i>Lacock</i>], <i>Trowbridge</i> , <i>Bradford</i> [<i>Monkton Farleigh</i> , <i>Farleigh Castle</i> , <i>Hinton Charterhouse</i>], and <i>Westbury</i> (Rly.)	46	12. Salisbury to <i>Yeovil</i> , by <i>Dinton</i> , <i>Tisbury</i> [<i>Wardour Castle</i> , <i>Fonthill</i> , <i>Hindon</i>], <i>Semley</i> [<i>Shaftesbury</i>], <i>Gillingham</i> [<i>Mere</i> , <i>Stowhead</i>], <i>Temple Combe</i> , <i>Milborne Port</i> , <i>Sherborne</i> (S. W. Rly.)	155
5. <i>Hungerford</i> to <i>Bath</i> [<i>Littlecote</i> , <i>Ramsbury</i>] by <i>Great Bedwyn</i> , <i>Savernake</i> , <i>Pewsey</i> [<i>Valley of the Avon</i> to <i>Amesbury</i>], <i>Devizes</i> , <i>Bradford</i> , <i>Freshford</i> , <i>Valley of Claverton</i> (G. W. Rly.)	62	13. <i>Southampton</i> to <i>Weymouth</i> , [<i>Abbotsbury</i>] by <i>Wimborne</i> , <i>Minster</i> , <i>Poole</i> , <i>Wareham</i> [<i>Corfe Castle</i>], and <i>Dorchester</i> (S. W. Rly.)	183
6. <i>Hungerford</i> to <i>Salisbury</i> , <i>Tidworth</i> , the <i>Winterbourn Valley</i> , <i>Winterslow</i> , 3 Rtes. (Road) ..	77	14. Salisbury to <i>Lyme Regis</i> , by <i>Blandford</i> , <i>Puddletown</i> , <i>Dorchester</i> , <i>Bridport</i> [<i>Beaminster</i>], and <i>Charmouth</i> (Road)	217
7. <i>Devizes</i> to <i>Salisbury</i> (two Rtes.): (a.) <i>Potterne</i> , <i>Market Lavington</i> ; (b.) <i>Urchfont</i> , <i>Salisbury Plain</i> (Road)	82	15. <i>Dorchester</i> to <i>Yeovil</i> . <i>Maiden Newton</i> to <i>Bridport</i> (G. W. Rly.)	235
8. <i>Romsey</i> to <i>Salisbury</i> [<i>Old Sarum</i> , <i>Amesbury</i> , <i>Stonehenge</i> , <i>Wilton</i> , <i>Longford</i> , <i>Clarendon</i>] (S. W. Rly.)	84	16. <i>Dorchester</i> to <i>Sherborne</i> [<i>Cerne Abbas</i>] (Road)	240
[<i>Wilts</i> , <i>Dorset</i> , &c., 1882.]		17. <i>Isle of Purbeck</i> . — <i>Swanage</i> , <i>East and West Lulworth</i> ..	242
		18. <i>The Isle of Portland</i> ..	252

ROUTE	PAGE	ROUTE	PAGE
19. Wimborne to Dorchester, by Corfe Mullen, Charborough Park, Bere Regis, Tolpuddle, and Puddletown (Road) ..	258	26. Bristol to Frome, by Brislington, Pensford [Stanton Drew], Clutton and Radstock (G. W. Rly.) ..	422
20. Wimborne to Highbridge, by Blandford, Sturminster, Stalbridge, Temple Combe, Wincanton, Glastonbury, [Wells] (Som. and Dors. Rly.) ..	262	27. Bristol to Yeovil, by Wells, Glastonbury, Somerton, and Ilchester (Road) ..	425
21. Bath to Wellington, by Bristol and Clifton [Kingsweston, Leigh Court, Portishead, Yatton, [Clevedon] [Brockley Combe], [Weston-super-Mare], Highbridge [Burnham], Bridgewater [Sedgemoor, Isle of Athelney], Durston, and Taunton (G. W. Rly.) ..	307	28. Yeovil to Axminster, by Crewkerne [Ford Abbey], Chard Junction, (S. W. Rly.) ..	429
22. Yatton to Wells, by Banwell, Axbridge and Cheddar. The Mendips (Rly.) ..	392	29. Chard Road Station to Taunton, by Chard and Ilminster (G. W. Rly.) ..	435
23. Frome to Yeovil, by Bruton and Castle Cary (G. W. Rly.)	400	30. Durston to Yeovil, by Langport [Muchelney], and Martock (G. W. Rly.) ..	439
24. Witham to Wells, by Shepton Mallet (G. W. Rly.) ..	416	31. Taunton to Porlock, by Williton, Watchet, Washford, [Cleeve Abbey], Dunster, Minehead (G. W. Rly. and Road) ..	445
25. Bath to Evercreech Junction, by Wellow, Radstock and Shepton Mallet (Som. and Dorset Rly.) ..	419	32. Bridgwater to Williton, by Cannington, Nether Stowey [the Quantocks], Stokecourcy, Crowcombe (Road, two Rtes.)	465
		33. Taunton to Dulverton and Barnstaple, by Milverton, Wiveliscombe, and Bampton (G. W. Rly.) ..	471

ROUTE 1.

LONDON TO BATH, BY SWINDON, WOOTTON BASSET, [MALMESBURY], CHIPPENHAM [BOWOOD, CALNE], CORSHAM, AND BOX.

(Great Western Rly.)

AFTER an almost uninterrupted ascent from London by easy gradients, shortly after leaving the Shrivenham Station, the Rly. crosses the little river Cole, and enters Wiltshire 73½ m. from Paddington.

[Just outside the Wiltshire border, in the county of Berks, on the road from Farringdon to Swindon, 2 m. E. from Highworth, stands *Coleshill House* (Earl of Radnor), built 1650,

one of Inigo Jones's latest and least altered works, containing a fine hall, and many good family portraits, including several by Sir J. Reynolds. The adjoining *Church* contains a monument, by Rysbraeck, to one of the Bouveries, and some marble effigies of the Pleydells and Pratts, Lord Radnor's maternal ancestors. It has a handsome Perp. tower, an excellent W. door, and in the nave some late Norman and good Dec. architecture. In the Bouverie aisle window are a pedigree of the family and a view of Coleshill in coloured glass. The E. window, representing the Nativity, was brought from Angers, in 1787. (See *Hdbk. for Berks.*) The village, in which no house for the sale of intoxicating beverages is permitted, consists mainly of cottages erected

by Lord Radnor, conspicuous for their pleasing design as well as their size and comfort.

2 m. from Coleshill, 6 m. from Swindon, is *Highworth* (*Inn*: King and Queen), (to which there is a short branch rly. from Swindon), an ancient town, belonging at the time of the Domesday Survey to the royal demesne, standing, as its name implies (the high "worth" or protected enclosure), on a lofty hill, commanding views over the counties of Gloucester, Berks, and Wilts. The *Ch.* (St. Michael's) is on an elevated site, like most churches dedicated to the archangel. It is chiefly Perp., with a western tower, and good pierced parapets. There is a chantry on the S., which contains some pieces of armour hung over the monuments of the Warnefords of *Warneford Place*, near Sevenhampton, popularly known as *Sennington*. *Highworth Ch.* was fortified and held for the king in the Civil Wars, but was taken by Fairfax's army on their march from Naseby westwards, June 27, 1645. "The soldiers," writes Sprigge, "had good booty in the ch., took 70 prisoners, and 80 arms." Some weeks later a skirmish took place, with considerable loss. A large number of skeletons were found in a field to the W. of the ch. 2 m. N.W. of the town is *Hannington*, a pretty village, built in the form of a Y. The *Ch.* has a Norm. S. doorway. *Hannington* was the birthplace, 1638, of Narcissus Marsh, Primate of Ireland, whose father had migrated hither from Kent. 2 m. W. is *Blunsdon Castle Hill*, so named from a small circular British camp.]

74 m. the rly. crosses the Roman road from Silchester to Cirencester, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. passes *Stratton St. Margaret's*, taking its name from its position on the Roman Street, where was an alien Benedictine priory, granted by Henry VI. to King's College, Cambridge.

77 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Swindon Junction Station*,

the summit of the main line, 270 ft. above the Paddington Terminus, and 292 ft. above that at Bristol. The South Wales division of the railway here branches off rt. to Gloucester, 37 m., and to New Milford, 208 m. and having numerous branches connecting it with various towns on the route, with the northern division of the Company's lines, and with the various South Wales coalfields.

Upwards of 200 trains on an average pass through the station daily. Nearly all the passenger trains make a 10 min.'s halt to enable passengers to avail themselves of the refreshment-rooms.

There is a branch rly. S. to Marlborough and Andover (Rte. 3) which is being extended N. to Cirencester and Cheltenham, thus connecting Birmingham, and the midland and northern districts, with Southampton and Portsmouth and the south of England.

Swindon Station takes its name from the old market town of that name on the high ground to the l., now practically united to its younger namesake, *New Swindon*, Pop. 17,669, which has grown up round it since the opening of the Gt. Western line in 1842 in what was previously a rabbit warren and pasture land. The Gt. Western Rly. Co. has here established the headquarters of the Locomotive and Carriage Departments or the whole of their system. Their premises include an area of about 106 acres, the buildings alone occupying 28 acres. The works are divided into 3 departments: the *Locomotive Factories*; the *Carriage and Wagon Works*; and the *Rail Mill*.

The *Locomotive Works* consist of various large Shops for different departments of the work, each distinguished by a letter of the alphabet. The whole of the operations connected with the construction of the locomotives and tenders are here carried on, from the forging of the large cranked axles (weighing in

some cases nearly two tons) with steam-hammers, to the actual trial of the locomotive.

The number of men employed is about 5000, who receive nearly 300,000*l.* a year in wages, exclusive of the salaries of the chief officers. Visitors are permitted to visit the works on Wednesdays after 3 P.M. The departments best worth visiting are the *Iron Foundry* (J); the *General Smithy* (Y); the *Brass Foundry* (U), and *Brass Fitters* (T); the *Turners* and *Fitters* of wheels (D) and (N), and the *Wheelsmith's Shop* (S). In (B) and (C) disabled engines are repaired. One of the most attractive is the *Steam-hammer Shop*, where several large hammers of immense force are at work in welding the metal fresh from the furnaces into compact masses for the parts of the gear requiring extra strength and tenacity.

The *Rail Mill* contains furnaces, steam-hammers, &c., for the entire process of manufacturing rails, from the puddling of the pig-iron to the final punching and straightening, and is capable of supplying 400 tons of rail per week.

The *Carriage and Wagon Works* cover an area of 12,483 square yards; the floor is laid out partly for machinery and partly for sidings, with self-acting traversing-tables for carrying the vehicles in and out of the shop.

The *Mechanics' Institution* is a fine building, and contains a large lecture-room and library comprising 1050 volumes, with a circulation of about 50,000 in a year—a commodious and well-supplied reading-room, and sundry class-rooms, chiefly for evening instruction.

Every workman in the Company's works at Swindon contributes to a medical fund, which secures the services of medical men, maintains an Accident Hospital, and provides washing, swimming, and Turkish baths, and other sanitary arrangements.

The rate of disease and mortality is less than in its apparently more healthily situated neighbour, Old Swindon, owing in great measure to the efficient system of drainage laid down by the Great Western Rly. Company.

The *Church*, built by the Company at the cost of 6000*l.* (Sir G. G. Scott, arch.) is in the Decorated style, with a tower and crocketed spire 140 ft. high. The vicarage and school-house adjoining were built by the Company at a cost of 1700*l.* Near the ch. a large piece of ground is laid out as a park and cricket-field.

The new red-brick ch. of *St. Paul's*, by Mr. E. B. Ferry, was consecrated June 28th, 1881.

[1 m. l., on the summit of the hill, is the old market-town of *Swindon* (*Inn*: Goddard Arms; Pop., including New Swindon, in 1841 only 2400, but now 22,365), a rather picturesque town with old houses of red brick and stone, commanding extensive prospects over Berks and Gloucestershire. The *Church* was rebuilt on a new site by Sir G. G. Scott, with a fine spire. Abp. Narcissus Marsh was vicar here in 1662. There is a Town-hall, Market-house, and Corn-exchange. The *Lawn* (A. L. Goddard, Esq.) is a handsome Italian residence. 1½ m. S.E., on the Liddington road, the reservoir of the Wilts and Berks Canal forms a fine lake of 80 acres, abounding in fish, in a beautifully wooded district. The *quarries* of building-stone (Portland oolite containing fossils), and the view from the tower of the Corn-exchange, both deserve notice. The view is very extensive, commanding to the E. the great chalk ridge, with its entrenchments and barrows, "the scene, probably, of the early Celtic settlements, of the final struggle of that people against the Saxons, and subsequently of some of the most severe contests between the Saxons and the Danes." Four camps are visible:

2 to N., Blunsdon and Ringsbury, near Purton; 2 to S., Badbury or Liddington Castle, and Barbury. This ground forms the N. limit of that range of chalk which extends in a compact mass as far as Salisbury, and branches thence through Dorset to the sea, including among its lonely hills some of the most stupendous Celtic works now extant. In the plain to the N.E. will be observed *Coleshill* (Earl of Radnor), and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S., on the flank of the Marlborough Downs, *Burdrop Park*, seat of the Calleys; 5 m. distant are *Barbury* and *Liddington Castle*, fine specimens of British castrametation, the one on the old and the other on the new road to Marlborough (see *post*). On the Lambourn Downs, E., is *Weland's Smithy* (see *Hdbk. for Berks*), a chambered sepulchre of some ancient chieftain. It is commonly called *Wayland Smith's cave*, from an old legend of which Sir Walter Scott makes a romantic use in 'Kenilworth,' about an invisible smith replacing lost horse-shoes there. *Weland* was the *Vulcan* of the Anglo-Saxons (see Dr. Thurnam's *Memoir, Wilts Archæol. Mag.* vol. 7). The *White Horse* is distant 1 m.]

Proceeding on our route—at

80 m. 3 m. 1. is *Basset Down House*, once the residence of Dr. Maskelyne, the astronomer-royal, and afterwards of his daughter, the late Mrs. Storey Maskelyne.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Lydiard Tregoze* (4 m. from Swindon, 3 from Wootton Bassett), so called from its ancient owners, the Tregoze family; from the reign of Hen. VII. the seat of the St. Johns, Viscounts Bolingbroke and Barons St. John. The plain stone mansion stands in a park finely wooded with old oaks. The *Church* deserves notice. The windows of the chancel contain a good deal of stained glass, among other devices an *olive tree*, in allusion to *Oliver St. John*, from the boughs of which

hang the shields of the different heiresses through whom the estates came to the St. John family. One of the monuments, to Katharine, d. of Sir John St. John, wife of Sir Giles Mompesson (said to have been the original of Sir Giles Overreach of *Massinger*, himself a Wiltshire man), is over the chancel door. There are gorgeous monuments of the St. John family, one enclosed within folding doors, painted with life-size figures, and the family pedigree. Among them are those of Nicholas and Eliz. St. John, 1589, kneeling figures, under a Corinthian canopy. Edward, d. 1645, in gilt armour; Sir John and his two wives and children adjoining the altar; John Viscount St. John, d. 1748. From the number and richness of its monuments it is called by the common people "Fine Lydiard." The great Lord Bolingbroke was buried at Battersea.

1 m. W. is *Midghall Farm*, an old moated house, once the Grange of Stanley Abbey.

83 *Wootton Bassett* Stat. The town (*Inn*: Royal Oak; Pop. 2300) occupies the summit of a hill; it was once the inheritance of the Bassets of Wycombe, its first name being corrupted from Wodeton, "Woodtown." It is a small market-town of a single street nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. long, disfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832. Lord Clarendon, the historian, was first returned to Parliament as its member.

The *Church* was of a very unusual plan, of 2 long aisles spanned by one roof, without distinction of chancel. But in 1871 the church was restored and enlarged by Mr. Street, at the cost of the trustees of Sir H. Meux, and the building of a N. aisle has changed the original arrangement. The old church now serves as a S. aisle to the new church: the staircase to the roodloft has been preserved on the S. side. The roof is panelled, and has the original painting. The tower, at the W. end of

the S. aisle, is low and small. The prevailing features are Perp. The S. porch has a parvise and good groining.

In the town-hall was formerly preserved the *Cucking* or *Ducking Stool*, now removed to the museum at Devizes, bearing the date 1668, once

“The dread of every scolding quean.”

This was an arm-chair on wheels, with 2 long poles or shafts, to the ends of which were fastened ropes. The woman who was supposed to have merited immersion was tied into the chair, and the machine wheeled to a pond. The shafts were then released, and the chair with its unfortunate occupant tilted into the water. When the ducking had been duly performed, the stool was again raised by a pull on the ropes. An old man living in 1869 remembered witnessing the penalty inflicted on one Peggy Lawrence about 1787, in the Weir-pond to the west of the Angel and Crown Inns.

A great number of septaria or cement-stones are found here in the Oxford clay, a stratum of the middle oolite. Farther N. are the coral-rag hills, and, bounded by their woods, the camp of *Ringsbury*, 1 m. W. of Redstreet, 3 m. on the road to the Purton Stat. (Rte. 2.)

[*Broad Hinton*, 5 m. S.E. towards Marlborough, was the residence of the great lawyer *Sir John Glanville*, b. 1590, Speaker of the House of Commons, 1640. “His seat,” says Evelyn, in his ‘*Diary*,’ 1654, “is at Broad Hinton, where he now lives, but in the gatehouse; his very fair dwelling having been burnt by his own hands, to prevent the rebels making a garrison of it.” In the *Church*, an interesting building beautifully restored in 1880, chiefly E. E., with a Perp. tower, is a tablet to him, and an alabaster effigy of Col. F. Glanville, killed at the siege of Bridgwater, 1645, and a huge monu-

ment to Sir T. Wroughton, his wife, and 8 children, d. 1591.

The ch. of *Winterbourn Bassett*, 1 m. S. situated on the downs, 2 m. S., of the time of Edw. III., was restored 1857. The tower is Perp., and the N. window of the N. chapel of the best period of Dec. Here are two small (so-called) Druidical stone circles.]

Upcot Hall, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. E., and 5 m. S. of Swindon. Here in 1850, the Ordnance surveyors erected a station at 890 ft. above sea-level, from which the Mendip Hills are distinctly visible.

Cliffe Pypard, 4 m. S. of Wootton, on the slope of the steep greensward cliff running W. by S. from Liddington to Highway, commanding lovely views, was severely visited, Sept. 1856, by a remarkable whirlwind, which, descending from the high land, destroyed several hundred trees on the grounds of the *Manor House*, an Elizabethan house (H. N. Goddard, Esq.). The *Ch.* (restored 1874) is a fine Perp. edifice, with a good western tower. The chancel has recently been brought back to its original E. E. design. There are good oak screens painted in the original colours and a fine oak roof. The monuments are numerous and interesting. The S. aisle contains a brass, with effigy of a knight, probably a *Quintin* of Bupton. There is a large marble monument to a native worthy and benefactor, *Thos. Spackman*.

Leaving Wootton Bassett, the line proceeds at first along an embankment, descending 50 ft. in a mile, commanding a wide view of the valley of the Avon, with its companion canal, and then enters a deep cutting, crossed by a bridge carrying a road from Malmesbury towards *Cliffe Pypard*.

$8\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Dauntsey Stat.* On the l. is *Bradenstoke Hill*, one of the highest oolitic ranges of N. Wilts, crowned

by the remains of the priory (now a farmhouse), and the fortified position of *Clack Hill* within a stone's throw of the priory. A deep fosse cuts off a headland between 2 valleys, on which is a square earthwork with high banks and a deep ditch, enclosing a beacon mound in the centre. The view from the hill and from the Abbey northward is of great extent and beauty.

Bradenstoke or *Broadstoke*, better known as *Clack Abbey*, was one of 4 religious houses which stood here in early times on or near the banks of the *Avon*; the others were *Malmesbury*, *Stanley*, and *Lacock*. "Its remains," says the poet *Bowles*, "yet appear conspicuous on the edge of that long sweep of hills which formed the S.W. bounds of the ancient forest of *Braden*, from whence the Danes descended like a storm to lay waste the country about *Chippenham* and *Lacock*." *Bradenstoke* was founded, A.D. 1142, for Augustine or Black canons, by *Walter d'Evreux*, father of *Patrick Earl of Salisbury*, and great-grandfather of *Ela*, *Longespée's* wife. At the Dissolution, it was granted to *Rich. Pexhall*, and afterwards belonged to the *Danvers*, and *Methuens*, now to *Sir G. Goldney*. The remains of the priory are well worth inspection. They consist of the Refectory range, on the N. side of the cloister court, with the prior's house at the E. end, and the domestic offices to the W., the whole supported on a vaulted undercroft, with octagonal piers, an admirable example of Early Decorated work, c. 1320. The hall is lighted with three beautiful 2-lt. windows of curvilinear tracery, set between bold buttresses, connected (since 1732) with a screen of round-headed arches. The interior is cut up by partitions, and the very finely carved oak roof, with the Dec. ball-flower on the beams, can only be seen in the garrets. At the west end of the Refectory are the

usual 3 doors opening into the kitchen, cellar and buttery, respectively. At the other end of the hall are the prior's chambers, with corner staircase and garderobe turret, with a so-called "holy thorn" growing out of the parapet, as in *Buck's* view. A large carved stone chimney-piece, of a late style of *Perp.*, has been removed to *Corsham Court*. A boss in the ceiling of the chief room bears the initial of *W. Snow*, the last prior, who became the first Dean of *Bristol*. Close to the house is a plain 15th cent. barn with modern roof. Of the conventual church on the opposite side of the cloister court there are no remains. Many stone coffins and ancient interments have been dug up on the site of the cemetery. A new Church has been built by *Sir G. Goldney*, in the village.

The pillar seen conspicuously on the ridge of the hill l. commemorates *Maud Heath of Langley* (see *post*, p. 14).

[At *Dauntsey* Stat. a short branch diverges rt. to *Malmesbury*, 6 m. The line pursues the course of *Avon* through pleasant green meadows, leaving $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles at *Dauntsey*.

Dauntsey lies $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to rt., $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of *Malmesbury*. The Ch., the chancel of which was restored 1879, contains a brass to *Sir John Danvers*, died 1514, with his wife, and one also to the lady *Anne* herself, who was daughter to *Sir John Dauntsey*, c. 1535, also an interesting monument to *Sir Henry Danvers*, d. 1644, created *Baron Danvers* by *James I.* and *Earl Danby* by *Charles I.* He and his brother *Sir Charles Danvers* were the principals in the extraordinary assassination of *Henry Long* at *Corsham* (see *Wilts Arch. Mag.* vol. i. p. 316), for which, from some unexplained cause, they were never brought to justice. *Sir Charles* was afterwards attainted and beheaded for his share in *Essex's* plot, 1600. *Lord Danvers* was a patron of *George Herbert*, and it was to *Dauntsey* ("A noble house

which stands in a choice air"—(*Walton's Lives*) that the poet retired in 1629, when threatened by consumption, and here he met his wife, daughter of Mr. C. Danvers of Baynton. (Lord Danby founded the Botanic Garden at Oxford, and built the entrance gateway from a design of Inigo Jones.) The monument records that he died full of "honours, woundes, and daies." The epitaph on the E. side is from Herbert's pen, though as Herbert died in 1633, more than ten years before Lord Danby, it was written by anticipation. He was succeeded by his brother John, one of Charles I.'s judges, whose estates, being forfeited to the Crown, formed part of Mary of Modena's dowry, and were granted by Queen Ann to Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough. The last Earl was buried here in 1814. The *Manor* belongs to Sir H. Meux, Bart.

The line crosses the Avon and reaches

2 m. l. *Great Somerford* Stat. with its grey pinnaced *Ch.*-tower peering out from the trees. *Little Somerford* lies a little further on to right.

Passing through a short tunnel before reaching the station there is a very striking view of the Abbey ch., and a stately gabled house crowning the steep green slope above the line. The stat. is to the N. of the town.

6 m. l. MALMESBURY (Pop. of Parl. borough, returning 1 member since the first Reform Act, 1866, of sanitary district, 3133) (*Inns*: King's Arms; George; the Earl of Radnor) is a decayed place, chiefly remarkable for its *Abbey Church*, one of the most valuable architectural relics in England, picturesquely situated on a peninsular ridge flanked on either side by running streams which unite at the S. extremity of the town to form the lower Avon, answering to Leland's description, "the toune of Malmesburie stondeth on the very toppe of

a great slaty rock, and ys wonderfully defended by nature, for Newton water comith 2 miles from N. to the town, and Avon water comith by W. to the town, and meets about a bridge at S.E."

The view of the town and abbey ruins is good from almost all points. There is a steep slope to the N., and from the rising ground opposite the effect is very fine.

Malmesbury in British times was known as *Caer Bladon*; under Anglo-Saxon rule it became *Ingelburne*, and was an important frontier military post of Wessex. The name of Malmesbury (*Maidulfesburgh*) is derived from an Irish missionary named *Maidulph*, or *Maldulph*, who in the early part of the 7th century planted a hermitage under the shelter of the fortress, and gathered a school around him. Among his scholars was the famous *Aldhelm*, afterwards first Bishop of *Sherborne* (A.D. 705), a member of the royal stock of *Wessex*, who, after pursuing his studies in the schools of *Hadrian the African*, and *Theodore of Tarsus*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, returned to Malmesbury, and became the first abbot of the monastery founded there, A.D. 680, by the grant of *Leutharius*, Bishop of *Winchester*, to whom the land round *Ingelburne Castle* belonged. *Aldhelm's* is one of the greatest names in the early ecclesiastical literature of England. He was the first Anglo-Saxon on record who wrote in Latin, and the fame of his classical knowledge, "*vestræ Latinitatis panegyricus rumor*," was widely spread not only in his native land, but on the continent, and reached the ears of dwellers in remote Frankish provinces. *Bede* says of him, that he "was a man most learned in all respects, for he had a clear style, and was wonderful for ecclesiastical and liberal erudition." Though so skilful in the composition of Latin verse, "in which," says *Bede*, "he wrote a

notable book on Virginity," he did not altogether neglect vernacular poetry; and "seeing with sorrow the little effect the services of religion had on the peasants, who listened to sermons with indifference, and forgot them as soon as heard; he placed himself on the bridge over the Avon which they had to cross on their way home, in the garb of a minstrel, and when he had arrested the crowd and fully enthralled their attention by the sweetness of his song, he gradually introduced into his popular lay some of the solemn truths of religion, and thus won many hearts to the faith" (Milman, 'Lat. Christ.' ii. 96). On his death, at Douling, in Somerset, (Rte. 24), in 709, his body was brought to the monastery he had founded, and buried in St. Michael's chapel; but was afterwards translated and placed near the high altar. William the Conqueror instituted a feast of four days in his honour, still observed in Leland's days, 5 centuries afterwards, which drew such crowds from all the country round, that soldiers were required in the town to keep order.

Another early teacher, "John the Scot," Abbot of Athelney, A.D. 887, met with a far less favourable reception at Malmesbury, "being," says Leland, "slayne of his own disciples thrusting and striking hym with their table pointelles." "This," he adds, "is John Scott that translated Dionysius out of Greek into Latin." He was also author of 'A Treatise on the Division of Nature.' The great patron hero of Malmesbury is "the glorious Athelstan," who rebuilt the monastery from the ground, and enriched it with large grants of land and the bones of St. Samson, besides a portion of the True Cross and Crown of Thorns. The "commoners" of the borough still hold a large tract of land, said to have been granted to them by Athelstan for their services in his

battles against the Danes. "Athelstan's Day" is observed annually on the second Tuesday after Trinity Sunday. At his death, in 941, he was buried near the altar of St. Mary in the Tower. Another benefactor was St. Dunstan, who, out of love for St. Aldhelm, presented the Ch. with an organ with metal pipes. Bishop Roger of Sarum, the all-powerful favourite of Henry I., built a castle, to the "great indignation of the monks," in the very churchyard, not a stone's throw from the church. In the civil wars of the 12th centy. Stephen held Malmesbury, which, after various changes of fortune, was attacked by Henry of Anjou, A.D. 1152, and taken, with the exception of the keep, in Stephen's absence. The king hastened to relieve his fortress, but "the stars in their courses fought against him," and the snow driving in his men's faces determined the day in Henry's favour, and the castle fell. It was razed to the ground by the monks in the reign of John, to enlarge their monastery, the buildings of which at the Dissolution extended over—not 45, as absurdly stated—but 6 acres. In the reign of Edw. III. the Abbot received a seat in the House of Peers, and a mitre was added by Richard II.

The *Abbey Ch.* (S.S. Peter and Paul) is the fragment of a building which, when perfect, must have stood very high among our ecclesiastical edifices. Its plan was of the fullest cathedral type, and its scale surpassed several churches of cathedral rank, while its architecture is of a very high degree of merit. Originally it was a complete cross ch., with central and W. towers. The central tower, crowned with a lofty spire, "a marke to al the countrie about, fell daungerously," according to Leland, "*in hominum memoriâ* c. 1500, and since was not re-edified." The other, "a greate square toure at the west end of the chirche" was

erected in the centre of the W. end, in late Perp. times, as at Christchurch Twynham, Bolton, Wimborne, Shrewsbury, Furness, &c., and appears to have fallen soon after Leland's time, crushing the whole western portion of the nave. The portion now in use consists of the 6 eastern out of the 9 bays of the nave, walled up at the E. end; thus excluding to the W. the remains of 3 bays, with the relics of the W. front, and to the E. 2 of the Norman lantern arches, originally supporting the central tower, with a portion of the W. wall of the transepts. Of the eastern limb the merest fragment remains attached to the N. lantern arch. The W. front of rich Norman work was a show façade (the prototype of that of Lincoln and Salisbury), with angular turrets and a screen-wall masking the ends of the aisle. A large Perp. window had been inserted in the centre. The external elevation of the nave is very fine, chiefly from the great height of the clerestory, a Decorated addition, and the fine series of pinnacles and flying buttresses. Vertical bands of circular medallions break the wall on either side of the clerestory windows in the 3 Eastern bays. The N. side, being concealed by the cloisters, was plainer. The most striking feature of the ch. is the S. porch "of surpassing richness, the profusion of ornament-work exceeding that of any other part of the building."—*Rickman*. It is of the same character as the W. door of Iffley, near Oxford, and instead of shafts with capitals supporting the arch, it has 8 concentric buttresses; three covered with continuous bands of sculpture of the most elaborate character, and 5 with interlaced patterns. The sculptures, which have been fully described by Prof. Cockerell ('Sculptures of Wells Cathedral') appear to represent on the 1st arch—the history of the Creation, Fall, Cain and Abel; on the 2nd the

Deluge, Offering of Isaac, scenes from the history of Moses, Samson and David; on the 3rd, scenes from the history of our Lord, the Annunciation, Nativity, Flight into Egypt, Last Supper, Crucifixion, Burial, Resurrection, &c., with intervening bands of elaborate foliage. The inner doorway has "a Majesty" in the tympanum, and the Apostles on either side of the arcaded porch. The whole was recased externally in the Decorated age. There is a smaller and plainer Norm. door to the N., originally opening into the cloisters.

The fabric of the ch. is usually ascribed to Henry I.'s all-powerful favourite, Roger, Bp. of Sarum, and is placed by Mr. Parker between 1115 and 1139. It is a very early example of Transition-Norman work, with as yet but few traces of the approaching change, beyond the obtusely pointed arches of the nave. The hood mould is ornamented with the billet mouldings, and terminates in grotesque heads. The piers are massive cylinders, about 2 diameters high, with imposts hardly deserving the name of capitals, from which vaulting shafts rise, spreading out into an elaborate groined roof with rich bosses, a Decorated work of the same date as the clerestory, the windows of which are of a somewhat unusual pattern. The triforium shows a semicircular arch embracing 4 smaller ones. "The whole elevation must have been one of the very grandest in England. It has all the solemn majesty of a Romanesque building, combined with somewhat of Gothic aspiration. The bays are tall and narrow, the triforium large, the clerestory still larger."—*E. A. Freeman*. The aisles retain their Norman vaulting, and, for the most part, their windows. In the 4th bay of the N. aisle a tall Dec. window has been inserted, rising above the aisle vault, and to accommodate it a little Dec. vault with ribs and bosses has been substituted for the

Norm. vaulting cell, covered by a gable on the outside. This change probably marks the site of an altar, of the reredos of which there are traces in the capital of the column beyond. Two curious but coarse Dec. windows in the S. aisle deserve notice. There is curious drop-tracery in the centre light. A clumsy stone chamber, perhaps a watching chamber or for the exhibition of relics, of Perp. date, projects from one of the bays of the S. triforium.

At the crossing 2 of the Norman lantern arches remain; that to the W. blocked, and that to the N. (singularly stilted to bring its apex to the same height with its wider neighbours) standing free, and forming a striking object in all views of the abbey. The rood-screen remains, its central door being blocked, and forms the reredos of the present ch. At the S. end of each aisle is a screen of Perp. date, but with Dec. tracery. A tomb supporting a mutilated crowned effigy, called Athelstan's, and which may very possibly be his, though of a much later age, and removed from its original site, stands to the S. of the present altar. Some incised coffin-lids are still preserved in the ch., and in the vestry are some specimens of encaustic pavement.

The preservation of the abbey remains is mainly due to one Master Stumpe, "an exceeding riche clothier that bouthe them of the king," who gave the nave to the parish and erected his looms in the vast deserted monastic offices, not sparing even "the little church" to the S. of the transept (the traditional scene of John Scot's murder by his pupils), where Leland found them busily working c. 1538. Stumpe should live in the memory of every lover of architecture as "the chef causer and contributor to have the abbey churche made a parish churche." This was carried into effect by Abp. Cranmer's licence, 1541. The old parish

church of St. Paul's standing as usual close to the abbey, was disused, and the E. end, in Leland's time, served as a town-hall. The tower, crowned with a broach spire, still serves as a campanile for the parish. The last remains of the nave were taken down in 1852.

Malmesbury was continually being taken and retaken by the contending forces during the great rebellion. Aubrey says that one of the pillars of the central tower and part of the superstructure were brought down by the volleys of shot fired in rejoicing on Charles II.'s restoration.

To the N.E. of the ch. is an Elizabethan house built on the substructure of part of the abbey buildings, probably the abbot's house. This substructure was a lofty crypt with a row of pillars down the centre; the windows have foliated rear arches.

There are several other fragments of antiquity in and about Malmesbury. The *Market Cross* is a very good example of this class of buildings, displaying good Perp. work of the 16th century. Leland speaks of it as erected "*in hominum memoriâ*," and describes it justly as "a right faire piece of work." It is octagonal, with angle piers and buttresses, having arches between, and flying buttresses to a central shaft terminating in a canopied pinnacle, decorated with statues, of which only St. Lawrence and a mitred bishop can be made out. The roof within is groined. The *Corporation Almshouse*, at the S.E. end of the town, close to St. John's Bridge, includes a fine E.E. doorway walled up, and part of a hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. In this building Henry VIII. was entertained by Stumpe the clothier, and Charles I. feasted by the corporation. The *White Lion Inn*, lately destroyed, was an hospitium of the abbey.

The historian *William of Malmesbury* derives his name from having

been educated in the monastery here, of which he became librarian and precentor, and refused the dignity of abbot, d. c. 1143.

Oliver of Malmesbury, a Benedictine monk and astrologer, d. 1060, is mentioned by Fuller as having attempted a flight from one of the abbey towers. He had fastened wings to his hands and feet, but they proved unequal to his weight, and he fell, breaking both his legs.

Malmesbury was the native place of *Thomas Hobbes*, the philosopher, author of the '*Leviathan*,' b. 1538, at Westport, a suburb of the town of which his father was vicar. A small house, with a low arched doorway, opposite the W. end of Westport Church, is erroneously pointed out as his birthplace.

2 m. N. of Malmesbury is

Charlton Park (Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire), a stately mansion, of Jacobean architecture, of which the oldest part was built by Sir Thos. Knyvet, temp. James I. The E. front was added in 1773 by Henry Lord Suffolk, Secretary of State in the American war. The W. front is attributed to *Inigo Jones*. The open court in the centre has been roofed over and converted into a hall; The interior is modernised, excepting one long gallery with oak panelling, and the original stucco roof with pendants. This is hung with interesting portraits, curious as historical memorials rather than fine as works of art, excepting the 3 children of Charles I. (a sketch—half-lengths), and Elizabeth Countess of Northumberland, by *Vandyck*.

Here are Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorset, *Mytens*; Sir Jerome Bowes, ambassador to the Czar of Muscovy, *L. de Heere*; Sir Edward Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who slew Lord Bruce in a duel, and fought at Edgehill, *Mytens*; James I., *Mark Gerard*; Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Lady Emily and Gertrude Howard, *Corn.*

Jansen; George Villiers, first Duke of Buckingham, *Van Somer*; Diana Countess of Oxford, *Mytens*; Maria d'Este, queen of James II., *Lely*; John Hampden; and many more. Here is a roomful of Charles II.'s beauties, by or after *Lely*, including Moll Davis, who originally, it is said, was the daughter of a villager at Charlton.

There are, besides, some very good paintings by old masters. That by *Leon. da Vinci*, so well known by the name of "*La Vierge aux rochers*," of which there is a repetition in the Louvre, is now in the National Gallery. *Domenichino*, St. Cecilia; 2, whole-length portrait of the widow of Cosmo II., Grand Duke of Tuscany. *Ann. Carracci*, a large landscape, with the Flight into Egypt*; 2, a male portrait. *Guido Reni*, the Adoration of the Shepherds*. *Holbein*, Catherine Howard, queen of Henry VIII. *Bagnacavallo*, the Virgin borne by Angels to Heaven. *Pietro F. Mola*, a landscape with Hagar and Ishmael. *Agost. Carracci*, a landscape, with the Baptism of Christ. *Claude*, 2 small landscapes. *Gaspar Poussin*, 2 small landscapes*. *D. da Volterra*, Christ lamented by his Disciples. *Murillo*, the Ascension of the Virgin; 2, the Coronation of the Virgin. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea*, "of singular delicacy and transparency." *Van der Heyden*, interior of a Dutch town with figures*—the latter by *A. Van der Velde*. *F. Milet*, a landscape, "in the taste of his great model Gaspar Poussin." *G. Poussin*, a landscape, with the Temple of the Sibyl at Tivoli, and the Flight into Egypt*. *Paul Brill*, a large poetic landscape. *Paul Veronese*, a "Flight into Egypt, here called a Lorenzo Lotto, I am inclined to attribute to this master." —*Waagen*. The 8 pictures marked with asterisks, together with an *Ecce Homo* by *Guido*, and a Virgin and Child by *Proccaccini*, were stolen out of the two drawing-rooms in a most daring manner on the night of Oct.

10, 1856, by a discarded servant. Fortunately they were recovered, and in the summer of 1858 were among the works of the Old Masters exhibited at the British Institution.

Dryden, who married a daughter of the Earl of Berkshire, was a frequent visitor at Charlton. His letter to his wife's brother, the Hon. Sir Robert Howard, giving an account of his '*Annus Mirabilis*,' is dated from Charlton, Nov. 10, 1666.

Great Sherston, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Malmesbury, is considered to be the *Sceorstan* of Henry of Huntingdon, where, in 1016, Edmund Ironside fought an obstinate but indecisive battle with the Danes under Canute. It was a place of some consequence in early times, and has a large Norman *Ch.* with a debased central tower. Great part of the picturesque village is built within a fortified earthwork on a point of land between 2 streams, the most perfect part of which is to the W. of the *ch.*

At a short distance N.E. is an entrenched camp, probably constructed at that time by the Saxon army. Near the village is *Pinkney Park*, W. H. Cresswell, Esq.; and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S., close to the Roman road, a spot called *Elm and Ash*, from 2 trees which apparently grew from one root, and in the popular belief had sprung from the stakes driven through the body of a suicide who had been there interred.

West of Malmesbury runs the Roman *Fosse Way*, almost in a direct line from Cirencester to Bath. The station of *Mutuantonis*, or *White Walls*, occupied the high ground near *Easton Grey*, 3 m. due W.

Foxley, 2 m. S.W., gave the title of Baron Foxley to Lord Holland.

Bradfield, S. of Foxley, is an old manor-house with pointed windows. One of its former owners was Wm. Collingbourne, author of the rhyme reflecting on Richard III. and his ministers Catesby, Ratcliffe, and Lovel—

The Cat, the Rat, and Lovell the Dog,
Rule all England under the Hog.

for which he was executed.]

90 m. rt. *Christian Malford*, on the Avon, which the rly. now crosses and keeps it on the l. The *Ch.* has a fine Dec. S. aisle, with some ancient stained glass in its E. window, and a Perp. screen.

$91\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tytherton Kellaways*, l., giving its name to the *Kellaways rock*, one of the limestone beds of the Oxford clay, almost entirely composed of fossil shells.

94 m. *Chippenham Junction Stat.*

[Here the Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth Railway passes off on l. to Dorchester and Weymouth. Another short branch goes to Calne, p. 18.]

CHIPPENHAM (*Inns*: Angel, George; Pop. of Parl. borough, 6776; of municipal borough, 1352). This is an agricultural and manufacturing town, sending 1 member to Parliament, situated on the *Avon*, here a clear winding stream, working various mills. It is celebrated for its cheese and corn markets. The former, now one of the largest in England, is held under an extensive covered building, erected for the purpose by the late Joseph Neeld, Esq., of Grittleton. The cloth made at Chippenham was deemed worthy of the first prize in the Great Exhibition, 1851; its silk-weaving is still a considerable business; and its two large iron-foundries, now closed, once supplied not only the Great Western but several lines of railway in the N. of England. The town has also 2 tanneries on a large scale, and a large establishment for condensing milk.

Chippenham is a town of great antiquity and historic interest. As its name implies (*A.-S. ceapan*, to buy), it was a market-town in Anglo-Saxon times, and having a large royal forest round it was sometimes a residence of the kings of Wessex. Here Alfred resided, and his sister Ethelswitha

was married to Burhed, King of Mercia. Chippenham was taken by the Danes in 878, who made it their head-quarters, whence they ravaged the whole adjoining country. Alfred's reappearance from his retreat at Athelney (see Rte. 21) and his victory at Ethandun was followed by his return to Chippenham, which he bequeathed to his daughter Elfrida, wife of Baldwin, Count of Flanders, for life. It came back to the Crown, and was one of the manors held by Edward the Confessor "in his own hand."

It was the birthplace of *Dr. John Scott*, b. 1688, author of 'The Christian Life,' who upon personal scruples twice refused a bishopric. The old Bath and London road passes through the town. In 1742 Sir Robert Walpole, finding himself in a minority of 16 on a question relating to a Chippenham election, resigned, having been then Prime Minister of England for 21 years.

The old *Town Hall* stands near the market-place. The *New Town Hall* was erected at the cost of Joseph Neeld, Esq., of Grittleton, M.P., d. 1856.

■ The *Church* (St. Andrew), enlarged and partly rebuilt in 1878, is a large edifice of mixed architecture. The tower, which bears the coat of arms of Lord Hungerford, lord of the manor temp. Henry VI., in 1633 was taken down and rebuilt with a spire, at the cost of 320*l.*, to which Sir F. Popham, M.P. for the borough, contributed 40*l.*; commemorated by a shield containing his arms over the W. door. The spire is early Dec.; the W. door is Early English; both rebuilt. The recent repairs have obliterated much of the original work of the chancel, c. 1120. An early window has been removed to another position. The elaborate Norm. chancel arch, c. 1120, has been re-chiselled, and re-erected on the N. side of the chancel. There is a rich Dec. squint, and a Perp.

chapel on S., covered with the cognisances of the house of Hungerford, and another S. chapel of 2 stories, opening by one arch into the ch. Sir Gilbert Prynne's monument, 1627, deserves to be noticed. The view from the E. end of the churchyard is very pleasing.

The *Ch. of St. Paul's*, built in 1853 from Sir G. G. Scott's designs, in the Decorated style, with a tower and spire 176 ft. high and a peal of 8 bells by Mears, stands on high ground near the railway station.

Maud Heath's Causeway, leads from St. Paul's Ch. N.E. for 4½ miles by the village of *Tytherton Kellaways* [where is a Moravian establishment founded by Cennick], to the top of Bremhillwick Hill, traversing a low tract of heavy clay land and crossing the N. Wilts Avon. It is a stone pitched path, made and still maintained by the benefaction of the individual whose name it bears (popularly said to have been a market woman), of the adjoining parish of Langley Burrell, c. 1474. Her memory is preserved by rhymed inscriptions on stones at either extremity of the path, and on the bridge midway, as well as by the monumental column on the ridge of Bremhillwick Hill, crowned with a rude statue of Maud Heath herself, erected in 1838 by Lord Lansdowne and the Rev. W. Lisle Bowles (see paper by Canon Jackson, *Wilts Arch. Mag.* i. 251). The couplet on the stone at the Chippenham end of the causeway is,

"Hither extendeth Maud Heath's gift
For where I stand is Chippenham clift."

This position and the adjoining drive on Wick Hill command one of the finest and most extensive views in Wiltshire, including W., Monkton Farleigh Tower, and Beckford's Tower at Bath, and the Badminton Woods; and E., Roundway Down, Compton House, the White Horse, the Cherhill Column, and the Wansdyke.

In the vicinity of the town are *Ivy House*; *Monkton House*, Graham Moore Esmeade, Esq.; *Notton*, (late) Rt. Hon. Sir J. W. Awdry; *Lackham*, formerly the seat of Lieut.-Col. Montagu, the naturalist; now of the Stapletons; and *Hardenhuish Park* (commonly called *Harnish*). The church of Hardenhuish was built by Wood of Bath. The cemetery contains a monument to the financier David Ricardo, father of the late Mrs. Clutterbuck, buried here 1823; and to John Thorpe, the learned editor of the 'Registrum' and 'Custumale Roffense.'

About 4 m. N.E. at Foxham, stands *Cadenham*, formerly a manor-house of the Hungerfords, whose arms, with the Seymours', it bears on the garden front; a small and rather poor house, erected in the 17th century. Evelyn was a visitor here in 1652, and was "long and nobly entertained." Among the outbuildings the dove-cot remains in fair preservation. A excellent example of a village church was erected here in 1879 by Mr. Butterfield.

[4 m. N. is *Draycot Cerne* (Earl Cowley) an ancient seat of the Cernes and Longs. The house contains many objects of interest, paintings, Sèvres china, curious fire-dogs, and candelabra presented to the Longs by Charles II. after the Restoration. The park is one of the finest in N. Wilts, richly studded with ancient oaks, crowning a hill commanding an extensive prospect. The monuments of the Cernes and Longs in the *Ch.* are interesting, including a knight in chain-armour said to be Sir Philip Cerne, a brass to Sir E. Cerne and lady, c. 1393, and a rich altar-tomb to Sir Thomas Long, and some modern monuments. The chancel is on a lower level than the nave.

2½ m. N.W., at Lanhill Farm, in the hamlet of Allington, close to the Bristol road, is a tumulus known as *Hubba's Low*, and traditionally known

as the burial-place of the Danish leader Hubba, but considered by Dr. Thurnam to be a British work. It was constructed of stones laid with the hand, and contained rude sepulchral cists formed by large rough slabs of the stone of the country.]

[3½ m. S.E. of Chippenham is the Marquis of Lansdowne's seat, *Bowood*. It is also accessible from Calne, from which it is distant 2 m. S.W. It is a mansion in the Italian style, combining splendour and taste with comfort, originally erected by the Earl of Shelburne from designs by the brothers Adam. It is not shown except by a personal order from Lord Lansdowne. The gardens are, however, accessible during the absence of the family, and the park is freely open. Bowood owes many of its most interesting associations, as well as much of its beauty, to its late distinguished owner, Henry 3rd Marquis of Lansdowne (died 31 January, 1863); who not only enlarged and embellished the ornamental grounds, and filled the house with a noble collection of pictures, books and various works of art and taste, but made it the hospitable resort of those who were distinguished in science, literature, and art. The principal entrance of the park is from Chippenham, by an arched gateway, flanked by a tower after a design by Barry, and ornamented on the inner wall by two reliefs by M. L. Watson. Opposite the gilt gates is the pretty little village of *Derry Hill*, full of modern half-timbered houses, a nice small *Hotel*, and a *Ch.* with lofty spire built in 1848. The drive to the house is nearly 2 m. through luxuriant woods, an occasional view being obtained of the Lansdowne Column and the white horse cut on the slope of the Cherhill downs. From Calne the park-road skirts the garden for the distance of a mile. The principal front, with a Doric portico, faces the S., and attached to it is a long low wing, containing a conservatory open-

ing on a succession of terraced gardens, and built in imitation of a wing of Diocletian's palace at Spalato. The view from this S. front is exceedingly beautiful; the lake winding through the woods, the ferry to the rustic cottage just peeping from the trees, the prospect over the forest upland to the purple hills of Roundway and Beacon Down.

Among the various apartments are distributed the pictures, which include specimens "of the best masters of the Italian, Flemish, Spanish, French, and English schools. They are arranged upon walls of crimson silk, which has an excellent effect."—*Waagen*. Among them may be enumerated—

In the drawing-room: *Salvator Rosa*, portrait of himself; 2. portrait of the Marchese Ricciarelli, *Rembrandt*, his famous mill, viewed at sunset; the finest landscape Rembrandt ever painted; there is a dark solitary grandeur about it. *L. Carracci*, the Virgin and Child. *Domenichino*, a small landscape. *Watteau*, 2 pictures. *G. Bassano*, the Entombment. *Gainsborough*, cattle returning at sunset. *Sir Joshua Reynolds*, 1. An imaginary portrait of Dr. Johnson in infancy; "Puck in the Sulks;" 2. the Strawberry Girl, "with all his glow of colour;" 3. Love nourished by Hope; 4. Mrs. Baldwin, in a Turkish dress, purchased at the sale of Sir Joshua's pictures by Phillips, R.A., as a study of colour; 5. Mrs. Sheridan (Miss Linley, the singer) as St. Cecilia. *J. Ruysdael*, a storm at sea, representing a vessel beating in to a harbour. "Among the few pictures of this class by Ruysdael, this, in point of grandeur of conception and astonishing truth, is one of the finest."—*Waagen*; 2. view of a town upon a stream, of charming light and shade. *P. Wouermans*, a landscape. *J. F. Navarrete*, called *El Mudo*, head of Donna Maria de Padillas; a portrait of exquisite beauty. "This

brings before us in a most lively way, and with a Rembrandt glow of colour, the genuine character of those Spanish women whom Calderon loves to describe."—*Waagen*. *A. Cuyp*, 2 charming seapieces; 3. sunset view on the Maas, cost 1250*l.* *Titian*, Virgin and Child, "painted in the clear golden tones of his earlier period." *Hobbema*, a landscape, most harmonious and beautiful; also 2 small landscapes. *B. Luini*, a Magdalen. *Hogarth*, portrait of Peg Woffington, the actress. *Murillo*, Portrait of an ecclesiastic; a very fine example of the master. *Berghem*, a landscape. *A. Carracci*, landscape, "a grand composition of mountains, sea, and lofty trees." *Claude*, view of a seaport by the morning-light; a concentration of the painter's excellences. *Wilkie*, a Capuchin monk confessing.

In the library: *Raphael*, St. John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness; perhaps the most valuable picture in the collection. It is a specimen of Raphael's transition from his Perugian to his Florentine style, painted in 1505. "The youth in a green cap is evidently the portrait of Raphael himself."—*Waagen*. The figures are in the costume of the time. *S. del Piombo*, a monk with a skull. *Giorgione*, a shepherd, evidently a portrait of the master himself. *Domenichino*, a small landscape, with Abraham and Isaac going to Mount Moriah. "The poetic composition, fine transparent colour, and singularly careful execution render this a perfect jewel."—*Waagen*.

In the cabinet: *Wilkie*, the Jew's harp; 2. Grandmamma's lap. *L. Backhuysen*, a seapiece. *Van der Heyden*, a Dutch town, remarkable for depth of colour; 2. A town gate, with figures by A. Van der Velde. *P. Wouermans*, a silvery landscape, a perfect gem. *Teniers*, the Temptation of St. Anthony, and 3 other pictures. *A. Cuyp*, a landscape with cows; full of sunshine. *Greuze*, a girl watching a cat playing with a

ball. *N. Maas*, a child in its cradle. *J. Steen*, the doctor and his patient. *Rembrandt*, a landscape in rainy weather, "of astonishing truth of effect." *Velasquez*, two horsemen; 2. a lady seated, and other figures. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea. *J. Ruysdael*, a hilly landscape; "this picture shows the intense feeling for nature."—*Waagen*.

In the corridor: *E. Landseer*, the Deerstalker's return, a procession over a bridge. *Van der Capella*, a seapiece; "one of his best pictures."—*Waagen*. *Jan Both*, buildings, with figures. *Teniers*, a peasant woman approaching over a hill. *Rembrandt*, a landscape. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea, with shipping; "of singularly delicate aerial perspective." *A. Calcott*, the Thames, with shipping, one of his best works. *Goodall*, a sick room. *Cope*, going to church. *Hurlstone*, Cupid. *Etty*, the Prodigal Son. *Leslie*, Sir Roger de Coverley going to church. *S. Newton*, the Vicar of Wakefield receiving back his daughter Olivia; 2. Captain Macheath; "How happy could I be with either." *E. W. Cooke*, view of Mont St. Michel. *F. Albano*, St. John preaching in the wilderness.

In the dining-room: *Stansfield*, 6 landscapes, chiefly views of Venice and of the coast about Naples. *Eastlake*, pilgrims in sight of Rome.

Among the sculpture are Camilla, and a bust of the 3rd Marquis, presented by his friends in 1853, and *Westmacott's* celebrated Hagar in the Desert, with the fainting Ishmael in her lap. The cabinets contain a collection of miscellaneous china.

The Gardens are admirably kept, and abound with the noblest and choicest trees, such as the cedar of Lebanon, the oak, and the cork. The Park derives beauty from the undulations of the ground, its boundary including as many as nine distinct valleys. Hill and dale are intersected in every direction by green roads. The Lake, containing an

island with a heronry, is a pretty object, issuing from the Great Wood. It terminates in a cascade, which, tumbling over mossy stones, very fairly represents the variety, grace, and abandon of nature.

Bowood, in early times, formed part of the royal forest of *Pewsham*, which adjoined that of *Chippenham*. The estate was purchased by John Earl of Shelburne, father of the first Marquis, from Sir Orlando Bridgeman: it had belonged to the crown till the reign of Charles I.

On Home Hill within the woods near the Devizes road is a mausoleum, the private burial-place of Bowood. It was built in 1764, from the design of Mr. Adam, one of the "Adelphi."

Outside the Park to the W. in a little glen, is a prettily situated old house called Lock's-well, from a most copious spring which there rushes forth. Here was the original site of *Stanley Abbey*, afterwards removed to the vale below, of which nothing now remains. The spring was at that time called "*Fons Drogonis*," or Drown-font.

Beyond the Park on the S. is *Whetham*, an old seat of the Ernle family, and beyond, adjoining the old London road that formerly went by Sandy Lane to Beacon Hill, stood old Bromham House, the seat of the Bayntons. It was so injured in the wars of Chas. I., that the family never restored it, but built a new one at Spye Park.]

[From Chippenham a branch line goes l. to *Calne*, 6 m., following the course of the river Marden, an affluent of the Avon. 2 m. from Chippenham it passes l. the site of *Stanley Abbey*, founded by Hen. II. and his mother the Empress Maud, for a body of Cistercians from Quarr in the Isle of Wight, in 1151, at Locks-well (see *ante*), and removed 1154 to Stanley. The only remains are a few fragments of walls in the farmhouse. A chain of fish-ponds, connected at

each end with the Marden, can still be traced.

CALNE (*Inns*: Lansdowne Arms; White Hart; *Population* of municipal borough, 2474). A parliamentary borough returning one member, which has been represented by Dunning, Lord Henry Petty (afterwards Lord Lansdowne), Mr. Abercromby, sometime Speaker of the House of Commons, T. Babington Macaulay, and Robert Lowe, now Viscount Sherbrooke.

Calne has the aspect of a place decidedly past its prime. It had once a busy manufacture of cloth, but this has left it for the northern counties, and its numerous factories are closed. The chief business carried on now is bacon curing.

Calne is a borough by prescription, and dates its origin from the time of the Saxons; but the only historic event at all connected with it is a council held here in 978 to decide the questions between the celibate regulars and the married secular clergy, whose causes were respectively maintained by Abp. Dunstan and Bp. Beornhelm of Winchester, at which the floor of the council-chamber gave way, and all were precipitated among the ruins except Dunstan and his supporters. The chief influence in the borough has long been exercised by the lord of the neighbouring Bowood.

The *Castle House* keeps up the memory of the Castle, of which all remains have long since disappeared.

The *Ch.* is a fine large building with double aisles to the nave, and aisles to the chancel, N. and S. porches, and a tower on the N. side, and a corresponding transeptal chapel to the S. The tower, which was originally central, fell on the chancel and crushed it c. 1645; both were rebuilt in a much better style than we should expect from the date. The piers and arches of the nave are massive Trans.-Norm. Some of

the arches are plain, others have the billet and dogtooth ornament. The whole ch. was admirably restored by Slater, 1864, mainly through the exertions of its late vicar, Canon Guthrie, and contains several fine memorial windows. The great W. window was the gift of Lord Crewe.

Dr. Priestley, the chemist, resided at Calne between the years 1770-1780, nominally as librarian, but really as literary companion to the Earl of Shelburne.

In 1814-1816 S. T. Coleridge spent some time at Calne as the guest of a Mr. Morgan, the son of a wealthy spirit merchant of Bristol, "a witty, kindhearted man," writes Cottle, "who ruined himself by thoughtless generosity in lending money to men who never repaid him." This, writes his son Hartley, was "the unhappiest period of my father's life" from the tyranny of opium. "Calne," says Hartley Coleridge, "is not a very pretty place. The soil is clayey and chalky; the streams far from crystal; the hills bare and shapeless; the trees not venerable; the town itself irregular, which is its only beauty. But there were good, comfortable, unintellectual people, in whose company I always thought S. T. C. more than usually pleasant."

The "sights" of Calne, are *Bowood* and the view from the *Lansdowne Column*. Avebury may be conveniently visited from Calne, from which it is distant about 7 m. (Rte. 3.)

[The *Lansdowne Column* crowns a lofty promontory of the chalk range, distant $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. It is erected within the area of *Oldbury Castle*, an entrenchment, to which, in the opinion of Milner, the Danes retired after their defeat by Alfred in the battle-field of Ethandune, which this antiquary places at Heddington. On the adjoining slope is the *Cherhill White Horse*, cut on the chalky ground about the year 1780, by Dr.

Alsop, a physician resident at Calne. It is in a spirited trotting attitude, 157 ft. from head to tail, and visible at a distance of 30 m. The *Wansdyke* will be observed on the downs to the S. *Maud Heath's Column* (see *ante*) is about 2 m. from Calne across the fields.]

[*Bremhill*, 2 m. N.W., was the living of the poet Bowles (d. 1850), whose residence has been thus described by Moore in his 'Diary':—"His parsonage-house at Bremhill is beautifully situated; but he has frittered away its beauty with grottoes, hermitages, and Shenstonian inscriptions: when company is coming he cries, 'Here, John, run with the crucifix and missal to the hermitage, and set the fountain going.' His sheep-bells are tuned in thirds and fifths. But he is an excellent fellow, notwithstanding." The "hermitage" is now in ruins, but the vicar courteously allows any who care to do so to visit the very picturesque grounds, where they may still see some of the columns erected by Bowles; some fragments from Stanley Abbey; and the dripping well whose waters are received into a shell given him by Rogers, the author of 'The Pleasures of Memory.' The Ch. will repay a visit. The N.E. angle of the tower shows "long and short work," presumed to be Saxon. The chancel arch and the arcade of the nave (rebuilt with the old stones when the ch. was "restored" in 1850), and the cylindrical font are c. 1180. The beautifully carved rood-loft and its staircase, described by Bowles, were unfortunately destroyed at the restoration. There is a good stone groined Perp. S. porch, with room over, and a sancte bell-cot on the extremity of the nave roof. Several epitaphs and inscriptions in the churchyard are from the pen of Mr. Bowles. A flat slab in front of the altar commemorates John Townson, vicar; ejected during the civil wars and returning to his benefice

at the Restoration, he lived till 1687, and founded the almshouses at Calne, S. of the Church.]

[2½ m. N.E., *Compton Basset*.

C. Basset House (Major Heneage), beautifully situated on a wooded slope of the downs, was built by Sir John Weld, who d. 1674, and has been restored by subsequent owners. There are some good family pictures; one of Mary Button, an heiress, in curious costume. In the Ch. is a remarkable double rood-screen of stone, with modern figures of the Apostles. The vaulting between the 2 screens supported the rood-loft; an hour-glass in its frame is attached to the pulpit. The chancel was restored 1865.

Hilmarton Ch., 3 m. N., was restored by the late Mr. Street. The columns are E.E.; the stone chancel-screen and timber roof Perp. There is a chained Bible of the edition of 1611.

Highway Ch., 4 m. N.E., rebuilt 1867 by Mr. Butterfield, at the cost of the late rector, the Hon. C. A. Harris, afterwards Bishop of Gibraltar, preserves a stone rood-screen and the rood-beam. The hills above the village command fine views.

Thomas Moore, the poet, passed his later years in this neighbourhood, at *Sloperton*, a cottage near Bromham. He was a frequent guest at Bowood. He died at Sloperton 1852, and is buried in Bromham churchyard.]

[*Lacock Abbey* is 6 m. W. from Calne, 4 m. N. from Melksham, 3 m. S.E. from Corsham, and 3 m. S. from Chippenham, from which it is most easily visited (for description see Rte. 4). The road to it from Calne runs between the parks of *Spye* and *Bowden*, and commands a fine view to the W. The old gatehouse of Spye is an excellent subject for a sketch, and it is a pleasant walk through it to Bowood park and Great Wood, distance 5 m.

The country about Calne is pretty. Those who explore it will be charmed

by the picturesque irregularity of the cottages.]

[From Chippenham the traveller may diverge to *Malmesbury*, 10 m. N. by road. It is a pleasant excursion through pretty country.

1 m. l. *Hardenhuish Park*, p. 15.

2 m. The cross roads, *Plough* public-house.

1 m. rt. stands the hamlet of *Kington Langley*, very prettily scattered on a hill, with a new chapel, St. Peter's. The rise to the village is called *Fitzurse Hill*, from an adjoining farm so called, which was anciently held under Glastonbury Abbey by the Fitzurse family, one of whom was one of the murderers of Thos. à Becket.

1 m. l. from the *Plough* is the village of *Kington St. Michael*. The manor-house has been rebuilt by H. Prodgers, Esq. An old Almshouse in the street was founded by a native, Isaac Lyte, Alderman of London, d. 1672. His arms are over the door.

The *Ch.* of 3 equal, gabled aisles, restored 1857, has a good Tr.-Norm. chancel arch, and an E. E. North arcade, with other remains of early work. The tower, blown down in the great storm of 1703, was rebuilt in a meagre style in 1725. It contains a monumental window to Aubrey and Britton, who, living at an interval of 150 years, were remarkable for similarity of taste and pursuits. *Kington St. Michael* had formerly a nunnery, of which there are some remains. "Old Jaques," says Aubrey, "who lived on the other side, hath seen 40 or 50 nunnies in a morning spinning with their wheels and bobbins."

Farther on, 1 m., in this parish is the small hamlet of *Easton Piers* (commonly now called *Percy*), in which, on the site of a farmhouse now called *Lower Easton Percy*, was formerly a house, the property of *John Aubrey*, the antiquary (1626), who, though stigmatised by Anthony Wood as

"a shiftless person, roving and maggoty-headed," has left us many valuable topographical and biographical works. He lived through the Civil War, Commonwealth, Restoration, and Revolution, and for some time resided at Broad Chalk in S. Wiltshire. *John Britton*, the antiquary, to whose labours English Gothic architecture and antiquities are so much indebted, was born at *Kington St. Michael* in 1771. His father was a baker, maltster, shopkeeper, and small farmer.

4½ m. on l. *Stanton St. Quintin*. The *Ch.*, restored a few years ago, contains good Norman arches, doorway, and font. The estate belongs to the Earl of Radnor. A curious old manor-house of the St. Quintins has been taken down. The park that belonged to it was afterwards planted, and is now a well-known cover in the Duke of Beaufort's hunt. In this wood in 1764, Geo. Hartford, a sailor, was murdered by Wm. Jaques, a shipmate, who was hanged for it on Stanton Common, now enclosed. At the back of the Rectory House are some stone shields. 1. See of Wells impaling Thos. Beckington; 2. Fitzhugh, and 3. One like Pulteney, with an ear of barley in chief. At the farther side of the parish towards Draycote is "The Hermitage," a square piece of ground with old moat about it, the history of which is unknown.

6 m. *Corston*. Here is a little church with a remarkable Perpendicular Bell-turret rising upon the west gable.

To rt. 1 m. on the hill *Rodbourne* (Sir R. Hungerford Pollen, Bart.). At this house is a curious painting of Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farley Castle near Bath, temp. Q. Eliz., inscribed to the effect that "he had challenged all England for 3 years together to produce a better war-horse, greyhound, or hawk than he possessed, and were refused for all." This is engraved in Sir R. C. Hoare's 'Modern Wilts.'

8 m., on l. *Burton Hill* (C. W. Miles, Esq. M.P.). The house having been burnt down some years ago, was rebuilt by the late owner, John Cockerill, Esq.

[From Chippenham the traveller may visit *Castle Combe*, 6 m.N.W., and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. further *Grittleton House*, with its interesting collection of pictures.

Castle Combe originally belonged to the Dunstanvilles, from whom it was purchased by the Badlesmeres; thence by marriage it passed c. 1322 to the Tiptofts, and c. 1385 to the Scropes, whose seat it had been for nearly 500 years, until 1867, when it was bought by E. C. Lowndes, Esq. Here lived Lord Scrope of Bolton, Lord Chancellor in the reign of Richard II., and in our time William Scrope, author of 'Days of Deer Stalking,' and 'Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing,' and till 1867 G. Poulett Scrope, Esq., M.P., author of the 'Extinct Volcanoes of France.' The situation is romantic. "The house lies deeply embosomed among steep and wooded slopes, in an angle of one of those narrow cleft-like valleys which intersect and drain the range of limestone hills called in Gloucestershire the Cotswolds, and which extend southwards as far as Bath. A small but rapid stream runs through the village, and after a course of some miles joins the Avon near the village of Box, whence it is known as the *Box brook*." Above this stream rises the wooded hill on which the original castle was built by the Dunstanvilles, now reduced to mere mounds of rubbish. In the village stand an ancient *market-cross*, square, with high-peaked roof and terminal pinnacle; and numerous old limestone houses retain the gabled fronts, the labelled and mullioned windows, and the wide stone fireplaces of early times. Of these the *Manor-house*, with its terraced garden, and the *Dowry-house*, are very in-

teresting specimens; the one on the old road to the castle, the other at the end of High-street, on the road leading up the hill to the N.

The earthworks of the castle containing 9 acres, with strong ditches and banks, seem to prove that a British stronghold existed here, centuries before the Norman castle was built. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1851, with the exception of the fine pinnacled tower with fan-traceried roof, erected in the first half of the 15th centy., partly at the expense of the wealthy clothiers of the place, partly of Sir J. Fastolf, second husband of Lady Millicent Tiptoft. The E. E. east window, a fragment of the original ch., deserves notice, as well as the chancel arch with 6 figures sculptured in high relief, and an altar-tomb with an effigy in chain-mail.

Near *Nettleton*, 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, is a very interesting tumulus, known as *Lugbury*, 180 ft. by 90, containing stone cists with skeletons, and a cromlech with a table-stone 12 ft. by 6, leaning against 2 uprights.

About 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, and the same distance N.E. of *North Wraxall*, in 1859, the remains of a Roman villa, with baths and hypocaust, and a cemetery were discovered by Mr. Poulett Scrope.

2 m. S.W. *North Wraxall Ch.* has a Norm. door, and E. E. chancel and tower, the latter covered by a saddle-back roof. It contains the monuments of the Methuens.

2 m. beyond Castle Combe, by a pretty drive through the grounds, is *West Kington*, Bp. Latimer's rectory. "In the walk at the parsonage house," says Aubrey, "is a little scrubbed oak where he used to sit." The oak is gone, but in the lately restored *Ch.* is the pulpit from which he used to preach. He used to see "the pilgrims come by flocks out of the west country along the Fosseway to many images, but chiefly to the Blood of Hailes," i.e., Hales Abbey, Gloucestershire.

2½ W. of Castle Combe is

Grittleton House, purchased of Col. Houlton, 1828, by the late Joseph Neeld, Esq., and now the property of his brother Sir John Neeld, Bart. The present mansion, (Thomson, *arch.*) completed 1857, contains a fine collection of works of art, including a gallery of sculpture, a large collection of paintings of several schools, some beautiful bronzes, &c. Permission to see them is given on application at the house. The principal pictures are as follows:—

Entrance Hall.—Some animal paintings by *Ward*; *Orgueil Castle*, Jersey, by *J. T. Serres*; and a curious picture of a cock, at *Titherton Lucas*, that changed its plumage three times.

West Gallery.—Some very choice Dutch cabinet paintings: *Temptation of St. Anthony*, *Teniers*; the *Bird-catcher*, *Bergheim*; *Travellers at Door*, *J. Ostade*; the *Waterwheel*, *Decker* and *J. Ostade*; *Potiphar's Wife*, *Rembrandt*; *Portrait of Rembrandt*, by himself; *Dutch Family*, and *Burgomasters of Amsterdam*, *Van der Helst*; *Vertumnus and Pomona*, *Netscher*; *Sir Thos. Gresham holding a pomander*, *Sir A. More*; *Lady Jane Grey the Night before her Execution*, *Northcote*; *Ann Boleyn*, *Holbein*; and many others.

Vestibule between Galleries.—*Coronaro Family*; *Dr. Johnson without his Wig*, *Opie*; *Tenducci, a singer*, *Gainsborough*; *Spanish Family*, *Gonzales*; *President West*, by himself; *Joseph Neeld, Esq.*, *Sir M. A. Shee*; *Sir John Neeld*, and others of the family.

East Gallery.—Chiefly Italian pictures: *Interior of St. Peter's*, *Pannini*; *Venus (from Villa Borghese)*, *Titian*; *Mater Dolorosa*, *Guido*; *Virgin and Child*, *Andrea del Sarto*; another, *Garofalo*; another, *Paduanino*; *Presentation in the Temple*, *L. Sabbatini*; *Tivoli*, *Orizante*; *Landscape*, *S. Rosa*; *Magdalen*, *L. Carracci*; *Battle Piece*, *Borgognone*, &c.

Shield Vestibule, and the one ad-

joining. *Raising of Brazen Serpent*, *St. Peter Preaching*, *Baptism of our Saviour*, *Magicians before Pharaoh*, *B. West*. Some beautiful enamels, *Bone*.

Dining-room.—*Dignitary* seated holding a *Letter*, *Rubens*; *Spanish gentleman*, *Velasquez*; *Duchess of Ferrara*, *Nell Gwyn*, &c.

Drawing-room.—*The Mall in St. James's Park*, *Gainsborough*; *Vale of Dedham*, *Constable*; *Dove Dale*, *Derbyshire*, *Glover*; *Hero and Leander*, *Etty*; also paintings by *Zoffany*, *Morland*, *Reynolds*, &c.

Staircase.—*Coronation of Hen. VI.*, *Opie*; *Hotspur and Owen Glendower*, *Westall*; *Cordelia Cursed*, *Fuseli*; *Death of Cordelia*, *Barry*; *Madame de Maintenon*, and a *Lady of the Court of Bohemia*, *Mignard*; *Christina, Q. of Sweden*, *Bourdon*; *Spirit of Prophecy conveyed to Isaiah*, *B. West*.

Sculpture. *Small Library Vestibule*—*The Listening Eve*, and *Maternal Love*, *Baily*; *Musidora*, *Sévere*. In *Shield Vestibule*—*The Surprise*, *E. Papworth*, and several others. *Large Gallery*—*Nymph preparing for Bath*, and the *Tired Hunter*, *Baily*; *Bacchus and Ino*, *Wyatt*; *Eve after the Fall*, *Raffaello Monti*; *Venus Victrix (the original)*, *Gibson*; *Early Melancholy*, *Obici*; *Venus and Cupid*, and *La Pescatrice*, *Scipio Tadolini*. In *Gallery Vestibule*—*The Graces*, *Baily*. In *West Picture Gallery*—*Adam Consoling Eve after her Evil Dream*, *Baily*; *Bust of Jos. Neeld, Esq.*, *Sir F. Chantrey*.

Among the bronzes are *Flaxman's Shield of Achilles*, *Hercules and Busiris*, *Boreas and Orithyia*, *Pluto carrying off Proserpine*, *Il Fidele (a Middle Age work)*, and many others.

2 m. E. of Grittleton is the small but highly decorated church of *Leigh-Delamere*, entirely rebuilt 1846, at the sole expense of the late Mr. Neeld. The ancient and peculiar bell-turret was re-erected on a schoolhouse at *Sevington*, a hamlet in this parish.]

Proceeding on our route we reach, 98½ m. *Corsham Stat.* (*Inn*: Methuen Arms) (Pop. 2660). The town, or rather village, lies ¾ m. on the rt. It was a residence of the Saxon Kings, and afterwards of the Earls of Cornwall. Corsham was in 1594 the scene of the murder of Henry Long, who was shot while sitting at dinner with his brother Sir Walter Long, of S. Wraxall, and other friends, by Sir Ch. and Sir H. Danvers, of Dauntsey. The cause of the murder was never accurately known. The assassins took refuge at Lord Southampton's, at Titchfield, and were never brought to justice (see *ante*, p. 7). It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Blackmore*, physician to Will. III., d. 1729, who, according to Leigh Hunt, "composed heaps of dull poetry, versified the Psalms, and, by way of extending the lesson of patience, wrote a paraphrase of the 'Book of Job.' " He was the son of an attorney, and in early life a schoolmaster:—

"By nature form'd, by want a pedant made,
Blackmore at first set up the whipping trade;
Next quack commenced."

However, says Cibber, he was "a worthy man and a friend to religion."

The *Church* is a fine building, once cruciform, restored by the late Mr. Street, who removed the central tower, and built a new tower and spire to the S. of the original S. Trans., now absorbed in the aisle. The nave arcades and N. door are Norman, the chancel Perp. There is a stone screen, elaborately carved, with a canopy of fan-vaulting at the entrance of the fine N. chapel, where are 2 altar-tombs, one of great size, to Thomas Tropenell and his wife Agnes, the builders of Great Chalfield manor-house late in the reign of Henry VI. There is a fine groined S. porch. In the street of the town is a small plain house of the 15th century, if not earlier.

Corsham Court (Lord Methuen) is 4 m. W. of Chippenham. The S.

front, which has been judiciously preserved through the successive alterations undergone by the rest of the mansion, is a charming example of the Elizabethan style. It was built (Aubrey says) by "Customer Smythe," (an ancestor of the late Lord Strangford), so called from being "farmer of the customs," and bears date 1582. The N. front, and other parts of the house remodelled by Nash, were reconstructed from a good Italian design by Charles Belamy. The staircase is spacious and stately. In the surrounding park are trees of magnificent growth, particularly cedars and oriental planes, one of the latter being probably the largest of its kind in England. In 1602 this estate became by purchase the property of the Hungerford family, of Farleigh Castle. Sir Edward Hungerford, commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament, resided here, and his widow Margaret, daughter and co-heir of William Halliday, Lord Mayor of London, built and endowed in 1672 the Almshouse and Free-school adjoining the park; of which hospital *Edward Hasted*, the historian of Kent, was for some years master, dying 1812. In 1746 Corsham House was purchased by Paul Methuen, Esq. It contains a gallery of very valuable paintings, in great part collected by Sir Paul Methuen, the ambassador to Madrid, who died 1757. Sir Paul was son of John Methuen, who was Chancellor of Ireland, Ambassador to Portugal, and the framer of the "Methuen Treaty" with that country, who, dying unmarried, bequeathed his London gallery of pictures to his relative, the purchaser of Corsham. They are arranged in the state rooms built by Lancelot, or "Capability" Brown, and include a number of family portraits by *Lely*, *Kneller*, *Dobson*, *C. Jansen*, *Vandyck*, *Riley*, *Reynolds*, *Gainsborough*, *Romney*, and others. Strangers are kindly permitted to view these pictures, of

which the following may be noticed as the most remarkable:—

Jan. Van Eyck (?)—Virgin and Child, with Joseph, St. Catherine, and another female saint; a beautiful Flemish painting, probably by an artist younger than Van Eyck. *A. Elzheimer*.—1. St. Paul at Malta; 2. Death of Procris; very fine specimens of an exceedingly rare master.

Mich. Angelo (?)—The Rape of Gany-
mede. *Carlo Dolce*.—1. Christ break-
ing bread, known as the "Salvador
Mundi," and corresponding with the
picture by the same painter in the
Dresden Gallery. 2. Our Saviour

at the house of the Pharisee, Mary
bathing his feet; said to have been
designed by Lud. Cigoli, and painted
for the Barberini family at Rome,
from whom it was purchased, 1737:
the portrait of the count is intro-
duced as a servant. 3. An angel
showing a child the way to heaven.

Bourguignon.—A landscape, with rob-
bers. *Mabuse*.—1. The 3 children of
Henry VII., from the collection of
Charles I. 2. Margaret, the mother
of Henry VII. *Albert Dürer* (?)—The
Adoration of the Shepherds; "an
early picture by *Lucas Van Leyden*."

—*W.** *Giorgione* (?)—Portrait of
Scanderbeg; "an admirable paint-
ing by *Holbein*."—*W.* *Lionello Spada*.

—David with the head of Goliath.
Guido Reni.—The Baptism of our
Saviour, from the Duke of Bucking-
ham's collection, 1684. *Rubens*.—
The Boar-hunt, a well-known picture.

Vandyck.—1. The Betrayal of our
Saviour, "a painting of the earlier
time of the master, and of extra-
ordinary effect."—*W.* 2. Portrait
of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond
and Lennox. 3. Charity. 4. Charles
I. on horseback, the size of life. 5.
Massacre of the Innocents. *Lesueur*.

—Pope Clement blessing St. Diony-
sius; remarkable for depth and
purity of feeling, and for powerful
colouring. *Carlo Cignani*.—The Ma-
donna and Child. *Guercino*.—Christ

and the Samaritan woman at the
well. *Pietro da Cortona*.—The Vir-
gin in glory, "a first-rate picture by
the master."—*Waagen*. *Albano*.—
Holy Family; in a silver frame by
Alessandro Algardi. The arms of
Pope Innocent X. are on the back. *Zuccherro*.—A curious portrait of
Queen Elizabeth. According to the
account handed down, it was painted
for her, after the death of Essex, to
symbolize her grief at his loss. Two
angels are removing the crown from
her head: the hour-glass on the
table is broken, and Death stands
behind.

The original collection at Corsham
—said to be one of the oldest private
collections in England—that has re-
mained nearly perfect—consists of
upwards of 150 pictures, besides the
family portraits; and to these about
70 have been added from the gallery
of the late Rev. John Sanford, father
of Lady Methuen, selected with
great judgment during a residence
in Florence.

7. *N. Poussin*.—A landscape, "with
the blind giant Orion meeting the
rising sun, in order to regain his
sight. A picture of the loftiest poe-
try of sentiment."—*W.* Painted in
1658, and formerly in the possession
of Sir Joshua Reynolds. 8. *A. del*

Sarto.—A portrait. 9. *Guido Reni*.—
Portrait of Paul V. 15. *S. del*

Picambo.—Portrait of Francesco Al-
bizzi; grandly conceived, but poor
in colour. 17. *Tintoretto*.—Portrait
of a Procurator of St. Mark's. 18.

J. Sustermaers.—Portrait of Galileo.
25. *D. da Volterra*.—A Mater Dolo-
rosa. 28. *G. da Fabriano*.—Coro-
nation of the Virgin. 29. *Fiesole*.—
Death of the Virgin. "In richness

of composition, and variety of the
most refined and beautiful heads,
this is one of the most admirable
works I know of the master, and at
the same time in marvellous preser-
vation."—*W.* 30. *Fra Bartolomeo*.
—Virgin and Child. 31, 32. *Uber-*

tini.—The History of Joseph; 2 of

* *W.* signifies *Waagen's 'Art Treasures,'*

the best works of the master: from the Gaddi collection. 33. *Domenichino*.—St. Catherine; grand in conception. 34. *Ghirlandajo*.—Virgin and Child. A charming picture. 36. *L. Carracci*.—The Annunciation. 39. *Pontormo*.—Virgin and Child, with St. John. 44. His own portrait. 40. *Fra Filippo Lippi*.—The Annunciation. 41. *G. di San Giovanni*.—Virgin and Child, with St. John, in fresco. Particularly fine. 42, 43. *S. Rosa*.—2 remarkable landscapes. 47. *Guercino*.—The infant Christ bearing the Cross. 48. *Claude*.—Landscape, with St. John in the desert. On tin. 49. *D. da Volterra*.—Study for the fresco at Rome. On the back the Crucifixion. 50. *L. Fontana*.—SS. Cecilia and Sebastian. 52. *L. di Credi*.—Virgin and Child. 53. *Correggio*.—The Fall of Phaëton. 55. Cartoon of an angel in the Cupola at Parma. "Graceful in motive, and soft and grand in the forms."—*W. Albano*.—Landscape with Salmacis and Hermaphrodite. *Raffaello*.—Madonna dell' Impannata.

S. of the Stat. are *Monks' Park* and *Neston Park*, the latter the seat of G. P. Fuller, Esq. *Hartham Park*, Mrs. Dickson, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., was built by Wyatt in 1790. *Pickwick Lodge* is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.

[$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of *Corsham Stat.*, on a branch of the Avon, lies the hamlet of *Slaughterford*. *Eaton-Down*, the hill immediately above it, in the parish of Yatton or Eaton, is supposed by Whitaker and others to have been *Ethandune*, the scene of the defeat of the Danes by Alfred, placed by others at Edington (Rte. 4, p. 61). In *Bury Wood*, 3 m. further W., in *Colerne* parish, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the Foss Way, are the remains of a strong camp of about 25 acres, secured on S.W. by a deep double rampart, and on the other sides by a precipitous ravine and small stream. Within the area is a small subsidiary earthwork of about an acre. A tower erected by

Mr. P. Scrope on the hill above *Slaughterford* commemorates this victory.

Biddeston, 3 m. N. of *Corsham*, consists of 2 parishes, *St. Nicholas* and *St. Peter's*, each once remarkable for a ch., with an ancient and very picturesque bell-turret. *St. Nicholas'* still remains, with a Norman turret over the chancel arch, and a S. doorway and font in the same style. It contains the tomb of Edmund, or "Rag," Smith, translator of Longinus, the friend of Steele and Addison, who d. at *Hartham House*, 1709. *St. Peter's* was Perp., but was demolished some years since; the bell-turret is preserved in the garden at *Castle Combe*.

Old Aubrey notes that this district "inclines people to zeal. Heretofore nothing but religious houses, now nothing but quakers and fanatics. A sour woodsy country, and inclines people to contemplation, so that, and the Bible and ease (for it is now all up with dairy grayzing, and cloathing), set their wits a running and reforming."]

Proceeding on our route, a cutting $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. long and with an average depth of 30 ft., in the cornbrash, forest marble, and great oolite, leads to the mouth of the

Box Tunnel, in length 3199 yards, or about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m., and in places 300 ft. below the surface. The strata dip E., and are all pierced in succession, viz. the great oolite, fuller's earth, inferior oolite, blue marl, and lias limestone. The E. end stands with its natural roof, other parts are lined with brickwork. The cost of the tunnel was upwards of 500,000*l*.

"The *stone-quarries* here are curious. A shaft is sunk through the forest marble and rubble beds, and is then carried in every direction. The galleries, are sometimes of great extent, and from 20 to 50 ft. in height. The stone is cut with a saw, and blocks containing 200 cubic

ft. are sometimes raised to the surface." There are 3 quarries in Box Hill; the lower one is subterranean, and of considerable size, having 3 m. of tramway. The space quarried out varies from 12 to 20 ft. between the side-walls or pillars left to support the roof. Into *Boxfield Quarry* the workmen descend by shafts 100 ft. deep. The roof of the quarry is intersected by vertical cracks in a manner that appears extremely dangerous to an observer unacquainted with the nature of the rock; but these fissures have remained in the same condition for 20 years, with the labourers working continually beneath them.

102 m. *Box Stat.* On l. are the *Church* and village of *Box*, the former an E. E., Dec., and Perp. building, with a Perp. tower and spire between the nave and chancel. Mrs. Bowdler, the mother of the editor of the 'Family Shakspeare,' and herself an authoress of some note, is buried here. Near the vicarage garden was found a Roman pavement. The site is marked by some lofty poplars.

Coleridge once lodged at a grocer's at Box, but was frightened away on discovering a barrel of gunpowder stored below his bedroom.

Within reach of the stat. are several points of interest. N. are *Cheyney Court*, a mansion of the Spekes of the time of Eliz. or James I., with fine old chimney-pieces; *Coles Farm*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E., built in 1645; and the little church of *Ditteridge*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., than which few in the neighbourhood will afford more to interest the archæologist, with its Norman nave, and S. door, the impost curiously sculptured; narrow chancel arch, of 13th cent., with a bell gable over it; curious piscina and shelf; and sq. Norman font. Mural paintings were discovered, c. 1857. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is *Hazelbury House*, of Eliz. date; S. *Chapel Plaster*, probably *Pley-stow* (Sax.), playground or village green—"the Kirk on the green,"

a small desecrated chapel, c. 1460, formerly a resting-place of pilgrims to the Abbey of Glastonbury, and in the last cent. the retreat of a notorious highwayman, one John Baxter, hung on *Claverton Down*; the farmhouse of *Wormwood*, built in the 17th cent.; and 3 m. S., *S. Wraxall*, a manor-house of the Longs, described in Rte. 4. 1 m. W. is *Shockerwick*, seat of the Wiltshire family.

2 m. N.W. of Box Station is the village of *Colerne*, where a Roman villa was discovered in 1838, and hidden again. The *Ch.* deserves a visit; the tower is a bold, lofty structure of 3 stages, of the 15th cent. Nave, Norm.; N. aisle, Perp., c. 1450; chancel, E. E., c. 1240; N. aisle to chancel, Dec., c. 1280. Notice the rich 14th cent. sedilia, and the traces of the original E. E. sedilia and sepulchre behind them. On a promontory of *Colerne Down* is *Burywood Camp* (see ante).

Bannerdown, where is a British camp, is traditionally said to have received its name of the "holy hill" from having been the place where St. Augustine met the delegates of the Celtic church.

About 1 m. beyond Box the railway enters the county of Somerset, where the *Avon* comes winding from the beautiful valley of *Claverton* (Rte. 5). The churches of *Batheaston*, *Bathford*, and *Bathampton* will be observed rt. and l. as the traveller is hurried towards

104 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bathampton Stat.*

107 m. *Bath Stat.* (Rte. 21.)

ROUTE 2.

SWINDON TO CHELTENHAM, BY
PURTON, CRICKLADE, AND MINETY.*(Great Western Union Railway.)*

This branch connects the Great Western, and Bristol and Birmingham Railways—trunk lines that meet at Bristol. It runs to Gloucester $36\frac{3}{4}$ m., and Cheltenham $44\frac{1}{4}$ m., from Swindon, and thence communicates with Hereford and Shrewsbury, N., and Newport, and Cardiff, and S. Wales.

$77\frac{1}{4}$ m. (from Paddington) *Swindon Stat.* (Rte. 1).

$81\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Purton Stat.* The village of Purton, or Periton (*i.e.* Pear-tree enclosure), stands on rising ground to the l. The *Ch.* is cruciform, remarkable for two steeples; one in the centre surmounted by a stone spire, and at the west-end a tower of more ornate character, with open parapet and pinnacles. The church is chiefly Perp., but the arcades of the nave have circular pillars of earlier character, and there are a few Dec. windows. The N. transept is larger than the S.; there is good groining under the central tower, and in some windows large remains of fine coloured glass. Purton belonged to Malmesbury Abbey till the Dissolution. A portion of it came afterwards into the possession of Mr. Henry Hyde, father of Lord Chancellor Clarendon (who was, however, born at Dinton in S. Wilts, *see* Rte. 12). In 1625 the future Chancellor, then in his 18th year, was here for the recovery of his health, injured by his severe legal studies, when the news of the assassination of the Duke of Buckingham by Felton reached him. Mr. Hyde's house is still standing. On one of the chimney-pieces are the arms of

the Chancellor's grandmother of the Sibell family, a tiger regardant in a mirror. Aubrey records that Anne Hyde, mother of Queens Mary and Anne, was born here. Purton was the seat of the Maskelyne family (whose monuments are in the church), ancestors of Dr. Maskelyne, astronomer Royal, and projector of the Nautical Almanac, born in London, 1732, and buried here, 1811. (For the once famous Purton Fair, *see* Hone's "Everyday Book," vol. ii. pp. 1207, 1379.)

Purton Spa, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the Cricklade road, a spring of bromo-iodated water, has some not undeserved fame as a medicinal spring.

1. 3 m. S.W. is *Ringsbury*, a quadrangular Roman camp, and *Restrop*, a picturesque Elizabethan house.

3 m. N. *Cricklade* (*Inn*: White Hart. Pop. of Parliamentary borough 51,956; of registration district, 5563), situated on the *Isis*, $10\frac{1}{2}$ m. from W. Crudwell, one of the sources of the Thames, and about as far from St. John's Bridge near Lechlade, the terminus of the river navigation. Cricklade is a place of great antiquity, being mentioned in an Anglo-Saxon charter as "crecca-gelád," or "creg-lád," signifying a "stone ford," from the British "cerrig," stone, and "lád," ford. It has been absurdly derived from a supposed university of Greek philosophers, planted here before the Roman invasion, *quasi* "Greeklade;" *teste* Drayton—

"Greeklade, whose great name yet vaunts
that learned tongue,
Where to Great Britain first the sacred
muses sung."—*Polyolbion*.

It stood on the Roman street, which passed through this county from Spene near Newbury to Cirencester. In 905, and again in 1016, it was plundered by the Danes, and it was here that, according to tradition, Bp. Wulstan appeared at the hour of his death to Robert Bp. of Hereford, to warn him of his end. In 1144 it was held against Stephen, by Wm.

of Dover, and after he had assumed the cross in expiation of his crimes, by his son Philip who carried fire and sword all round. Its churches, Down-Ampney, 2 m. N., and the Camp of *Castle Hill*, 4 m. S.E., are the only points of interest.

St. Samson's is cruciform, with pinnacled central tower. The lantern is internally decorated with armorial shields, one charged with the "bear and ragged staff" of the Earls of Warwick, and contains a curious clock, and the Widhill aisle belonging to the Earl of Radnor. The W. window of the N. aisle is Dec.; that of the nave, E.E. with plate tracery. Sir Walter Hungerford, in the reign of Henry VI., gave the advowson of this church, with the manor of Abingdon's court, to the dean and canons of Salisbury, to maintain a chantry chapel, and assist in keeping in repair the "campanile" of their cathedral. The school adjoining was founded by Rob. Jenner, a London goldsmith in 1652.

St. Mary's Ch. is very small, with a semicircular Norman arch between the nave and chancel, and a sculptured *Cross* in the churchyard. There is also a cross with canopied niches in the main street.

Down-Ampney, the property of Lord St. Germans, is situated on the border of the county, the gardens being partly in Gloucestershire. Between the reigns of Richard II. and Charles I. it was a seat of the Hungerfords, and before that of the family of Vilers, or Valers. The *Great Hall*, now a kitchen, bears date 1537; and the *gatehouse*, said to have been built by Sir Anthony Hungerford, is apparently of the age of Henry VIII. Contiguous to the mansion is the *Ch.*, in part the original building, and containing, in the S. transept, the tomb of Sir Nicholas de Vilers, or Valers, who is represented in his armour by the side of his lady. His feet rest upon a lion, and on his arm is a shield bearing

the cross of St. George and 5 scallop-shells. The supposed date of this monument is 1294.

N. of Cricklade is the canal which connects the Thames and Severn (completed in 1789), and W. the N. Wilts canal, which joins the Wilts and Berks canal at Swindon.

85½ *Minety Stat.* 1. 5 m. W. *Charlton Park* (Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire), and 7 m. W. the town of *Malmesbury* (Rte. 1).

Minety Ch., late E.E., has a brass to Nicholas Poulett, 1620, nephew to Q. Elizabeth's "dainty Amias." The family of William Penn were long resident in the parish, holding the office of stewards to the Abbots of Malmesbury. Sir W. Penn was born here, his father, according to Aubrey, being a keeper in Braden Forest.

The parish of Minety is partly situated on some outlying acres of Gloucestershire, islanded by Wiltshire. The church and neighbouring houses belong to the hundred of Malmesbury. S. and S.W. of it is the district of *Braden Forest*, which once covered the greater part of N. Wiltshire. *Braden Pond*, l. of the road to Malmesbury, is the largest sheet of water in the county, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. by $\frac{1}{2}$ m.

From Minety the rail runs onward through an undulating country towards the border, near which it extends a branch on the rt. to Cirencester and then passes into Gloucestershire at the Roman *Fosse Way*.

ROUTE 3.

SWINDON TO ANDOVER BY MARLBOROUGH [AVEBURY, SILBURY HILL], SAVERNAKE, COLLINGBOURNE, AND LUDGERSHALL.

(*Swindon, Marlborough, and Andover Rly.*)

This rly., $36\frac{1}{4}$ m. in length, forms a link in the system intended to connect Southampton, *viâ* Cirencester and Cheltenham, with Birmingham, Wolverhampton and the midland manufacturing districts, as well as with Manchester and Liverpool, *viâ* Crewe, and with South Wales *viâ* Gloucester. The first section from Swindon to Marlborough was opened July 26, 1881, the second section between Savernake and Andover will speedily be ready for traffic.

Commencing at Swindon Junction (Rte. 1) the line passes, 3 m., the town of Old Swindon on the S., and leaves on the l. the reservoir of the Wilts and Berks Canal, a sheet of water nearly a mile in length. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Burdrop* (Burythorp) *Park* (Henry Calley, Esq.) stands on the first rise of the high chalk downs, which command an extensive view over an open country, embracing the greater part of N. Wilts, with Swindon crowning an outlying eminence.

$6\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Chiseldon Stat.* The *Ch.* contains monuments to the Mellishes and the Calleys. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is the very conspicuous strong circular earthwork of *Badbury* or *Liddington Castle*, a British entrenchment, containing $7\frac{3}{4}$ acres within a rampart 40 ft. high. An erroneous theory identifies this fortress with the "Mons Badonicus" of history, where King Arthur, with his Round Table knights, defeated the Saxons

under Cerdic, A.D. 520 (see *post*, *Badbury Rings*, Rte. 13).

1 m. N. is the little village of *Liddington*, occupying the summit of a projecting bastion of the chalk downs, insulated on 3 sides by valleys. $\frac{3}{4}$ m. further N. by a rough road over the downs, also crowning a hill, is Wanborough, the *burh* or stronghold of Woden, formerly the key of Wessex, where in 591, "after one of the fiercest and bloodiest battles recorded in our annals, Ceawlin was defeated by his nephew Cedric, and two years after died in exile" (*Dr. Guest*). Here also, in 714, there was a drawn battle between Ine of Wessex and Ceolred of Mercia. The importance of the position is evident from a consideration of the topography. "All the great highways of Wessex converge to a point in the neighbourhood of Wanborough. When posted at Wanborough, the King of Wessex had Roman roads whereby to communicate with Winchester and Old Sarum, the capitals of his two principal shires; while another Roman road came to him from Silchester through the heart of Berkshire, and the Icknield Street brought him the men of Chiltern and of Oxfordshire."

Fairfax's army halted at Wanborough, in their march westward, June 28, 1645.

Wanborough Church is remarkable as having two steeples; one with a small spire at the E. end of the nave, and at the W. end a later sq. tower, erected (as recorded by a tablet affixed to the wall) A.D. 1435, by Thomas Polton and Edith his wife (to whom there is a stone in the S. aisle, giving the date "Anno Virginis"), and their son Philip, Archdeacon of Gloucester; for whom and their 15 other children, and other contributors to the building, the prayers of the faithful are requested. The village tradition, groundless, of course, is to the effect that the church was erected by two maiden sisters, who being unable to

agree whether it should have a tower or a spire, decided the point by building both.

The rly. continues through a high chalky district, the hills unenclosed and bare of trees with the exception of some beech clumps, the Roman Road by Mildenhall (Cunetio) to Winchester (Venta Belgarum) being its companion on the l. to

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Ogbourne St. George* (Okeburn), or Greater Ogbourne, the seat of an alien priory founded as a cell to Bec in Normandy, by Maud of Wallingford, c. 1149; the property of which passed, on the suppression of alien priories, partly to St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and partly to King's College, Cambridge, and the Charter-house, London. The *Ch.* has a fine old tower and a brass, 1517, to Thomas Goddard and wife, in the N. chantry. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. by the Marlborough Road is *Ogbourne St. Andrew* (2 m. N. of Marlborough), or Lesser Ogbourne. Nestling in a valley walled in by lofty downs, through which runs the little stream of the Og Bourn, emptying itself into the Kennet, just E. of Marlborough. Leland thus notices this tiny watercourse: "About half a mile or I cam into Marlebyri I passid ovar a broke that cam down north-west from the hills, and so ran by suth-east into the streme of Kenet obut half a mile byneathe Marlebyri."

From Ogbourne Stat. the tourist should diverge across the open downs, traversing *Burdrop Race-course* to the very remarkable and historic hill-fort of

Barbury. This is a large (British) camp, in excellent preservation. It is nearly circular, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. round, and girdled by a double ring of ditch and rampart, nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in circuit, enclosing 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres; the inner line is very strong, the massive rampart sloping full 50 ft. to the bottom of the ditch. The entrances are E., defended by a half-moon or barbican, and W., where the steepness of the hillside rendered

any additional defence needless, and the diam. of the area 2000 ft. Torques, spear and arrow heads, coins &c., dug up within the area of the camp, are preserved in the museum of Marlborough College. There is a pleasant walk along the crest of the hills, commanding wide views, past the "Four mile clump" to Marlborough.

Beran Byrig, or Barbury, is considered to have been the scene, in 556, of an obstinate and sanguinary battle between the Britons and the Saxons under Cynric and Ceawlin, resulting in the defeat of the former. This decided the fate of Wiltshire, which became a province of Wessex.

At *Hessick Barn*, midway between Ogbourne and Barbury, is the culminating point of the road, in a country wild and lonely. Around us are the grassy sides of the hills, down which we may trace the long descent to Marlborough, and at a little distance the plantations of *Rockley House* (rt.), formerly the seat of the Baskerville family. The hamlet of *Rockley*, where a little *Ch.* has recently been built, was the seat of a preceptory of the Knights Templars, the memory of which is preserved in the *Temple Farm*, to the W. of which lies a stony valley, called *Temple Bottom*, containing the remains of a cromlech (broken up within living memory). On the heights of *Hackpen*, overlooking the remains of Avebury, near *Glory Ann*, is a curious concavity, set with stones, called *Baltimore Pond*.

14 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. the rly. reaches

MARLBOROUGH (*Inns*: Ailesbury Arms; Castle and Ball; Pop. of municipal borough, 3343; of Parliamentary borough, including Prishute, 5180), a quaint old-fashioned town, pleasantly situated in a valley of the chalk range, on the River Kennet and the old great Bath Road. It is an agricultural centre, with a weekly market. The trades carried

on are brewing, malting, rope and sacking making, tanning, and wool-stapling. Its prosperity suffered considerably at first by the diversion of traffic caused by the opening of the Great Western Rly., before which 42 public conveyances passed through it daily; but it revived again with the opening of the branch line, and the extension of rly. communication N. to Swindon and S. to Andover cannot fail to increase its prosperity; while the establishment of the college, which has long ranked among our very first public schools, has materially added to the well-being of the place. The town consists principally of one fine wide street of large and well-built houses, chiefly built after the disastrous fire of Ap. 28, 1653 (originating in a tanner's yard), which nearly destroyed the whole town, greatly injuring both St. Mary's and St. Peter's Churches, and unhoused 300 families. It again suffered from fire in 1679 and 1690, after which an Act was obtained making it an indictable offence to have a house covered with thatch in the town. Evelyn visited Marlborough the year after the fire, and remarked that "having been lately fired it was new built." In 1668 Pepys visited it, and found it "a pretty fair town for a street or two. On one side the pent houses supported with pillars, which make a fair work." The colonnade mentioned by Pepys extends some distance along the N. side of the street, and gives a character to the town. At the W. end stand *St. Peter's Ch.* and *Marlborough College*; at the E. *St. Mary's Ch.* and the *Town Hall*, rebuilt after the fire of 1653, and again rebuilt in 1793, in which are preserved the Corporation maces, 1652, bearing the arms of the Commonwealth; the town measures, 1670, and the pillory, last used in 1807. On the N. side of the street are several old houses that escaped the fire, with picturesque

gables, carved timbers, and scaly coats of tile.

The antiquity of Marlborough is fully proved by the "*Castle Mound*," which though inferior in size to its colossal neighbour, Silbury Hill, is so similar to it as to be probably a work of the same date. The name, of which "*Merleberg*" is an early form, is popularly, but incorrectly, derived from the enchanter Merlin, who is supposed to be buried beneath the Castle mound, and the motto of the borough arms runs, "*Tibi nunc sapientis ossa Merlini*," with the mound as a crest. At *Mildenhall* (pronounced *Minall*), $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. (where in a dry season the lines of the main streets may be discerned, and where bricks, tiles, pottery, glass, coins, and other objects of Roman date are constantly ploughed up), and the adjoining hill of *Folly Farm*, was the Roman military station *Cunetio*, where were dug up the "*Marlborough Bucket*," preserved in the Stourhead collection, now at Devizes, and the "*Rudge Cup*," figured in Gough's Camden.

The Conqueror had a stronghold at Marlborough, in which he imprisoned several Saxon ecclesiastics, and established a mint. Henry I. kept his Easter here in 1110. The castle was built in this reign by the warlike bishop Roger of Salisbury, the great castle and church builder of his day. It was held for the Empress Maud by her half-brother Robert Earl of Gloucester, and his castellan John Fitz-Gilbert, called by William of Malmesbury "a very firebrand of wickedness." Hen. II. granted the castle to his son John Lackland, who was married here to Isabella the heiress of the Earl of Gloucester, in 1189. This monarch appears to have been much attached to Marlborough, frequently sojourning here, and making it a repository for his treasures. At the close of his luckless reign it was surrendered by its warden, Hugh de Neville, to Louis

of France, but soon opened its gates to the friends of Hen. III. This sovereign was often at Marlborough, probably led thither by the ample opportunities for hunting afforded by the royal forests of Savernake and Aldbourn Chase. For this monarch's accommodation considerable additions were made to the castle, with the view of improving its comfort as a residence. A kitchen was built for the king's special use; the queen's room was to have a chimney; new rooms were built for the priest behind the chapel, which received the addition of a bell-tower. A Florentine architect was employed, and 100*l.* borrowed from the Bishop of Salisbury to pay him. In 1245 all the poor clerks of Oxford were feasted here on the occasion of the funeral of the king's mother. In 1267 Henry's last Parliament was held here, and passed "the Statute of Marlborough," confirming some of the chief demands of Simon de Montfort. On Henry's death it formed part of the dowry of his widow Eleanor, on whose decease it was granted by Edward I. to his queen. Edward II. granted it to his favourite Hugh le Despencer in 1308. On his fall Queen Isabella obtained it. In the next reign it was held for the king's sister Joanna of Scotland, by a succession of wardens. Richard II. granted it to Sir Wm. Scrope, on whose execution in 1399 it reverted to the crown. From this point the history of the castle becomes obscure, but in the reign of Henry VI. it was held by "the good Duke Humphrey" of Gloucester, and according to Hall's 'Chronicles,' on the landing of Queen Margaret and the raising of the Lancastrian forces in the western counties, Edward IV. "removed straght to Marlborow." When and why the castle was dismantled there is no record; but it was still used as an occasional residence by the Seymours, into whose hands it had

passed by a grant from the crown to the Duke of Somerset, temp. Edward VI., from which family it was purchased 1779 by the Marquis of Ailesbury.

Marlborough had its full share in the disasters of the Great Rebellion. Clarendon speaks of it as "the most notoriously disaffected of Wiltshire," remarkable for "the obstinacy and malice of the inhabitants." As there was danger of its cutting off Charles I.'s communications with the West, it was stormed and partly burnt by the Royalists under Wilmot, Dec. 5, 1642, of which the shot-battered tower of St. Mary's is standing evidence, when John Franklyn, the popular member, and several of the chief townsmen were sent prisoners to Oxford. The taking of Marlborough marks an epoch in the Civil wars as the first garrison taken on either side. The town was sacked by the King's troops, 53 houses were burnt down, "the soldiers enquiring little who were friends or foes;" the market wagons were filled with plunder, and driven off in triumph to Oxford, damage to the amount of 50,000*l.* being done to the townspeople. At this time the castle and town were at variance. The former then belonged to Francis Lord Seymour of Trowbridge, a determined adherent of Charles I., by whom the old fortress was put in a state of defence to support the royal cause. Lord Seymour's wife and daughter were made prisoners by the Parliamentary leader, who filled the buildings with his musketeers, and occupied the mound as a place of retreat in case the town were taken. In 1643 we find the castle held by Sir Neville Poole for the Parliament. The same year the King and Prince Rupert defeated the Earl of Essex on Aldbourn Chase; and Marlborough Castle twice, in April and November, afforded quarters to Charles I. and his retinue. He was again quartered here in 1644, when

he reviewed his army on Aldbourn Chase. During all this time the unlucky town was perpetually suffering from the marauding exploits of Major Dowett, commander of the Devizes troopers, who seems to have looked upon Marlborough as an unfailing object of attack and depredation.

The civil wars over and the royal line restored, Marlborough Castle opened its doors to Charles II. and his queen and James Duke of York, who in a progress to the West were received here in great state by the above-mentioned Francis Lord Seymour, who had built the house now forming the nucleus of the college. The design is said to have been furnished by Webb, son-in-law to Inigo Jones. After this, wars ended, and the ordinary occupations of a nobleman's family in a large country house began.

The most remarkable mistress of Marlborough during this period was Frances, granddaughter of the 1st Lord Weymouth, Countess of Hertford and afterwards Duchess of Somerset, whose energetic interference in behalf of Richard Savage when convicted of murder, is recorded in Johnson's 'Lives of the Poets.' She was a great patroness of the spurious picturesque and bombastic pastoral, which characterized the early part of the 18th century. Under her auspices the Castle gardens were altered, and as was supposed, beautified, while Nature was twisted into grotesque and hideous forms. The cascades were widened, fresh ruins dispersed over the grounds, a still existing grotto made under the mound, which her ladyship compares with Pope's at Twickenham. Two of the principal heroes of Lady Hertford's entertainments were Dr. Watts, the hymn writer, and Thomson, author of 'The Seasons.' To Dr. Watts she writes about the education of her son, Lord Beauchamp, bewailing his inability

to learn repetition, a difficulty apparently smoothed away by the kindness of his tutor, who gave him very little of it to do, and "was very favourable to him in his impositions of this kind." Thomson she regarded with such favour that he dedicated to her his poem on Spring, in the following prosaic verses :—

"O Hertford, fitted or to shine in courts
With unaffected grace, or walk the plain
With Innocence and Meditation joined
In soft assemblage, listen to my song,
Which thy own season paints; when, Nature
all
Is blooming and benevolent, like thee."

Indeed it would appear that a great part of 'Spring,' was composed during a visit to the Castle. But "Hertford," as he somewhat familiarly calls her, found that the poet was little better than a drunkard, and that he preferred carousing with her husband to pastoral meditations with herself, and he was not invited a second time to Marlborough. Another of her literary protégées was Elizabeth Rowe, who is said to have written some of her poetry in the grotto under the mound.

Lord Beauchamp, whose repetition was so bad, died young: and his sister, Lady Elizabeth Seymour, married Sir Hugh Smithson, representative, through his mother, of the great house of Percy, and afterwards created Earl of Northumberland.

But the Northumberland family felt no hereditary attachment to the old manor-house of the Seymours. They preferred the Thames and the Aln to the Kennet, and deserted Marlborough for their princely palaces of Alnwick and Sion. We find evidences of its desolation in a series of letters directing a few necessary repairs in the house, forbidding any expense in the garden, and at last agreeing to let it on lease to Mr. Cotterell, who was to open it as an inn. It was sold by Charles, 4th Duke of Rutland, to Lord Ailesbury. The house itself remained an inn for

almost another century, and as the "Castle Inn" long maintained the character of one of the best in England. Being on the great Bath road it received a large number of the chief personages of the land on their way to or from the medicinal springs. In 1767 it was for a time the quarters of the great *Lord Chatham*, who had been attacked by the gout on his road to London. "When he reached the Castle Inn," runs the story, "he stopped, shut himself up in his room, and remained there some weeks. Everybody who travelled that road was amazed by the number of his attendants. Footmen and grooms, dressed in his family livery, filled the whole inn, though one of the largest in England, and swarmed in the streets of the little town. The truth was that the invalid had insisted that during his stay all the waiters and stable-boys of the Castle should wear his livery." It closed its doors finally as an inn, January 5, 1843.

Among the natives of Marlborough are *Henry Sacheverell*, the political divine, b. 1672,—

"the sentinel
Who loudest rang his pulpit 'larum bell."
Wordsworth.

whose father was Rector of St. Peter's. *Sir Michael Foster*, a Judge of the King's Bench, b. 1689, d. 1763, *Walter Harte*, the poet, friend of Pope, and biographer of Gustavus Adolphus, d. 1774, and John Hughes, a contributor to the *Spectator*, *Tatler*, &c., d. 1720. Stephen Duck, d. 1756, the poet, was originally a farm labourer at St. Margaret's, where his rhymes attracted the attention of the Countess of Hertford, who introduced him at Court.

In a "Mr. Daniell's house, St. Margaret's," when on a journey from Bath, died *Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury*, Lord High Treasurer to James I. 1612.

Marlborough was constituted a Suffragan see by Henry VIII., to

which Thomas Morley was consecrated 1537. In Queen Mary's reign two husbandmen of this place, John Hunt and Richard White, were presented at Salisbury as heretics, and condemned to be burnt; but the under-sheriff, "Master Michell," says Fuller, "instead of burning the prisoners, burnt the writ, and before it could be renewed both Dr. Geoffrey, the bloody Chancellor of Salisbury who procured it, and Queen Mary, were dead, to the miraculous preservation of God's poor servants."

St. Peter's at the W. end of the main street, is a Perp. church of some character, mostly of good stone, but some small portions are of flint. The porch has stone groining, as also has the chancel. The arcades are light, and the windows have good tracery. It was restored in 1864. The tower, 120 ft. high, is late and situated at the W. of the S. aisle; it has large heavy pinnacles and too much of blank wall.

St. Mary's, behind the Town Hall, was much injured by the fire of 1653, and partly rebuilt in a debased style. It was restored in 1844, and the chancel, by Street, was added in 1874. There is a good Norman doorway at the W. end; the S. aisle has some tolerable Perp. windows, and the tower is of the same character, but very plain. A library is attached to the ch.

The ch. of *Preshute*, just beyond the college, has been partially rebuilt, but preserves its Norman pillars and sculptured capitals, and a curious piscina. It contains a black basalt font of remarkable size, of the early half of the 12th cent., in which a long standing tradition mentioned by Camden tells us that King John, and other royal personages were baptized. It is by no means improbable that the font may have been transferred hither from the chapel of St. Nicholas in Marlborough Castle on the dismantling of that fortress.

A fragment of *St. Margaret's*

Priory of White Canons, converted into cottages, is to the l. on leaving the rly. station.

The *Grammar School*, founded by Edward VI., 1550, is a red-brick building overgrown with ivy; among its *alumni* were Dr. Sacheverell and General Picton.

Marlborough College was opened Aug. 26, 1843, as a school designed to offer an education of the highest class to the sons of clergymen and others; the former receiving special advantages. The idea originated with the Rev. Charles Plater in 1842. The first head-master was Dr. Wilkinson, afterwards Vicar of Melksham, d. 1876. By the original charter, dated 1845, two-thirds of the pupils were to be sons of clergymen; but by a second charter in 1849, the number was reduced to one-half. Under the management of the second head-master, Dr. Cotton, the lamented Bishop of Calcutta, and his successors, the Rev. G. G. Bradley, afterwards Master of University College, Oxford, now Dean of Westminster, and Dr. Farrar, as well as its present head-master, it has gained a very high place among the educational establishments of the country. The nucleus of the College is formed by Lord Seymour's old brick house, afterwards the "Castle Inn," now known as "C." House (see *ante*); other blocks of building called after other letters of the alphabet have been added in the same style, forming 3 sides of an irregular quadrangle. The "Bradleian," erected as a testimonial to Dean Bradley, houses the classes for art-teaching, and its hall is used for examinations, lectures, concerts, &c. The "Adderly Library," founded 1848, is placed in the old "C" house. The dining-hall contains portraits of the successive head-masters. In 1848 a chapel from Blore's designs was consecrated, which contains memorial windows to Bp. Cotton, and others, masters and

scholars. The principal entrance to the College is from the Bath road, and beyond it is seen the figure of a *white horse*, in a trotting attitude, cut on the chalky slope of the valley. It is the work of no Celt or Saxon, but of the schoolboys of one Mr. Greasley, in 1804, who had seen the white horses of Cherhill and Bratton.

[The neighbourhood of Marlborough contains sufficient objects of interest to engage the attention of the traveller for 3 or 4 days. The views from the clumps of fir-trees on the Common and the Granham Hill are wide and fine: (1.) The Cromlech, known as the *Devil's Den*, the gigantic mound of *Silbury Hill*, and the remains of the wonderful earthwork and megalithic monument of Avebury; (2.) Martensell Hill and the Wansdyke; (3.) Savernake Forest; (4.) Littlecote.

The *Devil's Den*, Avebury and Silbury Hill may be taken in a day's excursion from Marlborough. The distance to Avebury is 6 m. The expedition by carriage usually takes about 3 hours; but by far the best way of seeing the remains is on foot.

Leaving the town by the Devizes road, with the Kennet on the l., we pass Preshute, and at 1 m. reach *Manton*, where are preserved two rickety specimens of antique coach-making. They are a carriage and a phaëton with harness, built for one of the Baskerville family on his being appointed high sheriff of the county either in 1698 or 1736. The arms of Baskerville, quartering Ward and Danvers, are painted on the panels. At 1½ m. we have the entrance to *Clatford Bottom* on our rt. through a gate opposite the farmhouse of Clatford; ½ m. up this winding grass-clad combe is the cist or sepulchre called the *Devil's Den*. It is 8 ft. 9 in. high, consisting of a stone slab 9 ft. by 8 ft., originally resting on 4 up-rights, of which only one remains

in position. Part of the once-enveloping mound exists. Proceeding up the valley the traveller will soon find himself among the "Grey-wethers," boulders of *sarsen*, or silicious sandstone, which extend for upwards of a mile, and present one of the most remarkable geological phenomena in the country. They are believed by Mr. Prestwich to be consolidated portions of the sands and quartz of the Plastic clay series. He will thread this labyrinth of stones, and, having passed a ride from the Marlborough race-course, which crosses the vale obliquely, ascend Overton hill on the l., and proceed direct for Avebury. The vantage ground of this hill will afford him an excellent view not only of the surrounding country, but of the interesting spot he is approaching. He will look upon an extensive basin, containing in the centre, within a grassy ring or rampart, the remains of the great circles of stones and the modern village of Avebury; and towards the S. upon the culminating ridge of the Marlborough Downs, sweeping from Bowood to Savernake, and scored by a long waved line marking the course of the Belgic boundary, the *Wansdyke*.

The village of *Avebury* or *Abury*, "like some beautiful parasite, has grown up at the expense and in the midst of the ancient temple" (*Sir J. Lubbock*), is chiefly built with the fragments of the huge stone circles, which have been used as a quarry for centuries. More than 650 stones have been destroyed, and even the walls and roads have been formed of their ruins. The village occupies an area, once partitioned into circular spaces the enormous stones, but now cut into quadrants by roads from the four cardinal points, and still girt by the original earthen mound and inner ditch. Outside the mound, at a distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ m., are scattered

British barrows, many of large size and sharp symmetrical outline.

The visitor should climb the earthen rampart to obtain a general view of Avebury and its remains. The scene is one of great singularity; but the area within the earthwork is now so covered by the village that it is difficult, even with a plan of the ancient appearance of the place in one's hands, to understand its original arrangements. But if the visitor will suppose for a moment every house and hedge, tree and wall, &c., to be effaced, he may perhaps be able to form a general notion of it. There was in the first place an enormous earthen rampart about 40 ft. high from the bottom of the fosse, 4442 ft. in circumference, circular, but not a perfect circle. Within this is a deep fosse; and the fosse being on the inner side of the rampart, it is at once clear that it was no military work. This rampart and fosse enclosed a level area of 28 acres 27 perches. Immediately on the inner margin of the fosse, forming a kind of coronet all round the level area, was a row of unhewn stones supposed to have been 100 in number, placed 27 ft. apart. Of these 9 only are now erect, 10 are prostrate, and 16 are known to be buried. A number of pits mark the sites of stones. The dimensions of 2 stones standing near the turnpike are—the one 13 ft. high by 16 ft. wide and 4 ft. thick; the other 13 ft. 10 in. high, 18 ft. wide, and 5 ft. 6 in. thick. The longer diam. of the circle is 1260 ft.; the shorter diam. 1170 ft. Within the large outer circle or oval, were 2 smaller ones, each originally composed of 30 stones. Of the southern of these circles 2 stones remain erect, 3 prostrate. Of the northern circle 2 stones are erect and 2 prostrate, and one known to be buried. Within each of these 2 circles was probably a concentric circle of 12 stones, of which there were indications. Within the northern, in its

centre, were 3 large stones which formed an adytum or cove; of these 2 remain; the taller 17 ft. high, 7 ft. 7 in. wide, and 2 ft. 4 in. thick. At the present time, out of the 650 great stones there are within the

entire enclosure only 15 stones remaining upright and 16 recumbent, and 18 known to be buried.

The circular earthwork, with the circles of upright stones enclosed by it, was approached (according to

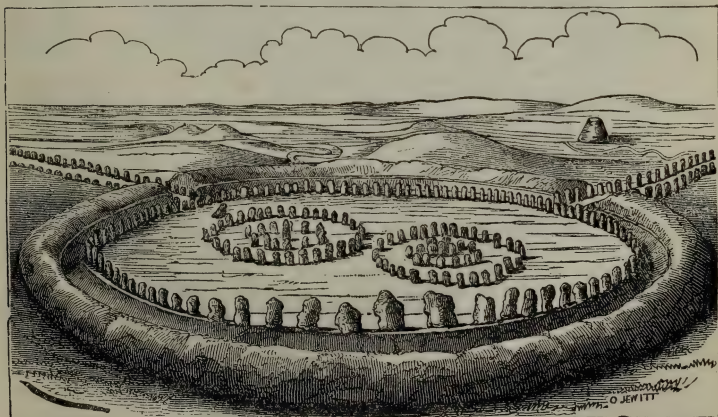


Plan of AVEBURY and surrounding Country.

A. The Kennet Avenue of Stones, leading to Overton Circle, O.

B. Dr. Stukeley's supposed Avenue to Beckampton. No trace remains.

c c. Roman Road. d d. British Trackway. e. Beckampton. g. West Kennet Long Barrow.
h. East Kennet Long Barrow.

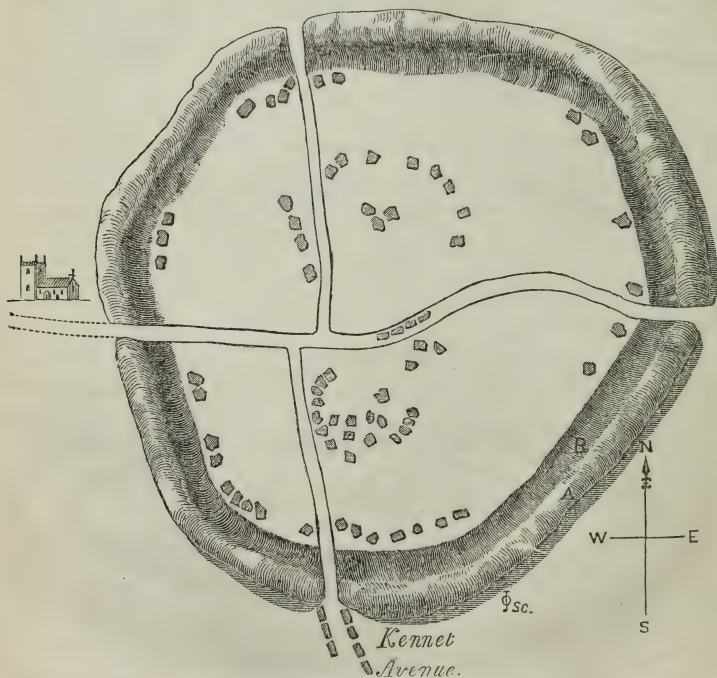


AVEBURY (from the North), with Silbury in the distance. Its general appearance in the original state, as conjectured.

N.B.—The Circles, both Earthwork and Stones, were much more irregular in shape than here represents. For the more exact form, see the other Plans.

Dr. Stukeley's fanciful and now exploded idea) from the S.W. and S.E. by a double avenue of upright blocks, each about 72 ft. wide, and consisting of 200 stones placed in pairs at intervals of about 48 ft., and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, curving so as to give the idea of a serpent. That from the S.W. (of which there is really no evidence) ended, as he supposed, at Beckhampton in a single stone, that from the S.E. in an oval group on Overton Hill (more probably a distinct monument): these two extremities, representing, according to Stukeley, the tail and head of his hypothetical serpent, of which

the avenue formed the body, transfixing the great central circle. Stukeley gives engravings of the stones as they remained in 1724, and mentions when portions were removed. Of the S.W. avenue, towards West Kennet, 15 stones remain; 2 near Beckhampton, in a field to the N. of the road, of larger dimensions than the stones of the S.W. avenue (one of them is 16 ft. high by as many broad and $3\frac{1}{2}$ thick), are the sole ground on which Stukeley built his notion of a S.E. avenue. In Aubrey's time there were 3 stones called the "Devil's Quoits." They are now known as the "Long

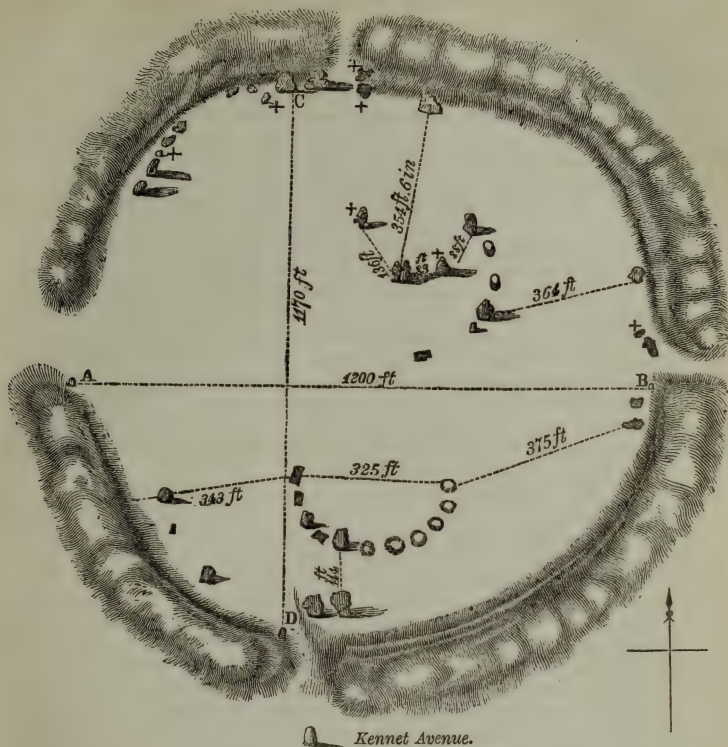


AVEBURY. The oldest known Plan: made by JOHN AUBREY, about A.D. 1660.

Showing the irregularly Circular Earthwork and Ditch; the arrangement of the Large Stones within; and one Avenue only of Stones leading to Kennet.

A. The earthen vallum.

B. The ditch inside the vallum.



AVEBURY. As surveyed by Sir R. C. HOARE, A.D. 1812. [Roads and houses being omitted.]

The Area contains 28 acres and 27 perches. The circumference on the ridge of the vallum, 4442 feet.

The seven stones marked + were removed between 1819 and 1857.

Stones," and probably formed part of a circle.

The stones of which the circles and avenues are composed are called *sarsens*. They are found in the immediate neighbourhood. The weight of the largest stone at Avebury is about 62 tons; one of the stones now destroyed weighed 90 tons.

Wansdyke passes to the S. of Avebury, and approaches within 4 m. of it, but Avebury is outside this earth-work, which is supposed to mark

the extent of the last Belgic conquest, prior to the coming of Julius Cæsar.

Many are the theories respecting Avebury. There can be little doubt that it dates from a period anterior to the Roman conquest of Britain. It is considered by most antiquaries to be older than Stonehenge.

Stukeley gives Avebury a very remote date, about the time of Abraham. The Rev. Mr. Lisle Bowles supposes it to be Phœnician. Mr. Bathurst Deane considers it a Serpent Temple, and compares it to the

remains at Stanton Drew and at Carnac in Britany. The Rev. E. Duke regards it as part of a vast Planetarium described on the Wilts Downs. Mr. Herbert and Mr. Ferguson ascribe it to a post-Roman period.

The discoveries of similar remains in India appear to throw a side light upon its object and the mode of its formation.

The following passage is from Dr. Hooker's address to the British Association, Aug. 1868 (see also Col. Yule's memoir, 'Bengal Asiatic Journal,' 1844):—"There exists within 300 miles of the British capital of India a tribe of semi-savages who habitually erect dolmens, menhirs, cists, and cromlechs, almost as gigantic in their proportions and very similar in appearance and construction to the so-called Druidical remains of Western Europe. . . . The method of removing the blocks is by cutting grooves, along which fires are lit, into which, when heated, cold water is run, which causes the rock to fissure along the groove. The lever and rope are the only mechanical aids used in transporting and erecting the block. The objects of their erection are sepulture, marking spots where public events have occurred, and the like. The Khasian word for a stone, 'man,' is the same as commonly occurs in names of their villages and places, as the word 'maen' does in those of Brittany, Wales, Cornwall, &c."

It is somewhat remarkable that there is no historical account whatsoever of this great work nor any mention of it by name, and the only allusion to it is the one discovered by J. M. Kemble in the 'Codex Ævi Saxonici,' in the words "along the stonerow" (Kennet Avenue), "thence to the burial-places." (? Avebury Circle.)

As to its having been a "Druidical Temple," there seems to be no trustworthy evidence that the Druids ever made use of such places for

temples; and of "serpent temples," the very name is unknown in ancient history.

The earliest existing notice of Avebury is in the writings of John Aubrey, the Wiltshire Antiquary, who came upon it unexpectedly whilst hunting over the down in 1648, with Mr. Charles Seymour of Marlborough Castle House. He was at that time only 22 years of age, but had been from a boy observant of the antiquities of his native county. He was so much struck with his discovery that he left his hounds to follow their game and paused to pursue his own. In his MS. work called 'Monumenta Britannica,' (now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford) he has left an interesting plan and description of it, as it appeared to him at that time.

Aubrey's account, reported by Lord Brouncker and Dr. Charlton to Charles II., induced the king to halt at Marlborough on his way to Bath, accompanied by the Duke of York, under his guidance. Pepys also came upon it and Silbury unexpectedly on one of his journeys on horseback to Bath, with "great admiration," and describes it in his Diary, June 15, 1668.

Avebury Ch. stands to the W., just outside the huge earthen rampart which has been levelled at this point.

It was originally a very rude, aisleless building of Saxon or early Norman date, to which Norman aisles were added, c. 1112, and a very good Perp. Tower. In Oct. 1880 two of the original windows were discovered, towards the W. end. They had evidently been closed with shutters, without glazing. The Norman arcade was replaced by a semi-classical one in 1811. The chancel was rebuilt 1879, preserving the chancel-arch, c. 1280. The early porch, the Norman doorway, the large squints, the rood-loft coloured and gilt, above all, the very curious leaden Norman tub-font, deserve notice. *Avebury House*, the Eliza-

bethan Manor-house of the Dunches, stands close to the ch. among fine hills, with a very picturesque gabled front. The circular dovecote remains. Avebury was a cell of St. George Boscherville in Normandy. founded here in 1110.

Silbury Hill rises from the valley of the Kennet, about a mile S.S.E. of Avebury church, close to the Roman road from Bath to Marlborough, and to its modern successor, the once thronged but now almost deserted Great Bath road, which here coincides with it. It has been warmly debated whether Silbury is posterior or anterior to the Roman occupation of Britain; but there can be no reasonable doubt that it stands on the Roman road which here makes a slight deviation from the straight line to avoid the hill. Professor Tyndall remarks that Silbury Hill afforded "a splendid landmark to the Roman engineers," the Roman road from "Cunetio" to "Aquæ Solis" being carried in a straight line to the base of the hill, and there slightly deflected to avoid it. This is called in question by Mr. Fergusson, who considers that the hill is posterior to the Romans, and that it was raised to commemorate a battle, probably "Arthur's 2nd and last battle of Badon Hill." His opinion also is that Avebury was nothing more than a burying-place, and was a "full-sized plan of a battle lithographed on the field where it was fought." The earlier date is supported by Sir John Lubbock, Professor Tyndall, and Dr. Thurnam. During the autumn of 1867 the exact course of the ancient road was ascertained by removing the surface of the ground in the field above the turnpike road S. of the hill, and the question was set at rest, though the actual date of the monument remains as deeply shrouded in mystery as ever.

This gigantic mound is probably the largest artificial hill in Europe, and if we may derive its name from

the A.-S. *sel* "noble," and *burh* "stronghold," its proportions accord completely with its designation. Others have identified the first syllable with the goddess, "Sul Minerva" who presided over the hot springs of Bath "Aquæ Sulis," or with a mythical king Seale buried beneath it. The shape of Silbury is a truncated cone, 1657 ft. in circumference at the base, which occupies upwards of 5 acres with a diameter of 552 ft. A circle of *sarsen* stones, 3 or 4 ft. across, set at intervals of about 18 ft., surrounded the mound at its bottom; but few of these are now visible. Its sides slope regularly upwards at an angle of 30°. Its height is 170 ft., and the diameter of the circular area of its summit 104 ft. Its cubical volume is computed at nearly 468,170 solid yards of earth. The object of this enormous work has been a frequent subject of discussion, and investigations have been undertaken with the view of determining whether the ordinary view which considers it to be a sepulchral mound raised over some mighty hero of old time is correct. In 1777 the hill was opened from the top by Cornish miners under the direction of the then Duke of Northumberland and Col. Drax; and again in 1849, under the superintendence of Dr. Merewether, Dean of Hereford, when the mound was tunnelled at its base, and a space of 12 ft. in diam. in the very centre of the mass examined. On neither occasion was any trace of interment discovered. But the apertures hitherto made have been so insignificant compared with the size of the hill that the question cannot be considered to have been settled by these excavations. As with Avebury, we are completely destitute of any information as to when, by whom, and for what purpose it was formed.

The visitor should ascend to the top for a view, and call to mind Southey's 'Inscription for a tablet':

"This mound, in some remote and dateless day
 Rear'd o'er a chieftain of the age of hills,
 May here detain thee, traveller! from thy road
 Not idly lingering. In his narrow house
 Some warrior sleeps below, whose gallant deeds
 Haply at many a solemn festival
 The Scald hath sung; but perish'd is the song
 Of praise, as o'er these bleak and barren downs
 The wind that passes and is heard no more.
 Go, traveller, and remember, when the pomp
 Of earthly glory fades, that one good deed,
 Unseen, unheard, unnoted by mankind,
 Lives in the eternal register of Heaven."
Bristol, 1796.

Yatebury, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., on the broad plateau of the Marlborough downs, 536 ft. above the sea. The *Ch.* has a good Perp. tower, Transition arcade, fine Norman font, and rood stair-turret. The chancel and screen are modern (1854). One of the nave windows contains some roundels of E.E. glass. There is a fine yew in the ch.-yd. The parish contains many sepulchral barrows, which have yielded the usual objects. Dec. 30, 1859, the village was visited by a tornado of astonishing violence.

Winterbourne Monkton, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. The *Ch.*, carefully restored by Butterfield, 1878, has a good Norm. font, and on the W. side of the chancel arch a reredos of 3 rude shallow niches and a piscina mark the place of 2 side altars.

Berwick Bassett, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N., has a good E.E. font, a rood-screen and rood-beam, Perp. and a small brass, 1427, to a priest, William Bayly, who left 100s. to the ch.

The turnpike road from Marlborough passes on l. the villages of *Fyfield* (where the *Ch.*, with a pinnacled tower, is very picturesquely situated among tall elms, with a lych gate in the ch.-yd., and is worth a visit. The font is Norm. with intersecting arches), *West Overton* (the *Ch.* conspicuously crowning a hill,

was rebuilt in 1878, preserving most of the old windows, and using the chancel arch as the entrance to the organ chamber), *East Kennet* and *West Kennet*, devoted to the brewing and storing of the celebrated West Kennet ale, where the river Kennet turns N. at right angles to its former course, parallel to which the road to Avebury diverges from the main road. Near West Kennet is the *Long Barrow*, a tumulus of considerable interest, 336 long by 40 ft. broad at the W. end, and 75 ft. at E. end. The walls of the chamber are formed of six great slabs of stone, opening into a passage. When opened, it contained two human skeletons in a sitting posture, and two laid horizontally. Shortly after passing *Fyfield* a valley to the rt. of the road will be noticed completely filled with sarsen stone or "grey wethers." "They look like a river of stone, if I may so speak; as if some mighty flood had rolled them along down the valley, and there left them behind as it sunk" (*Kingsley*). The few survivors of the giants of the eastern avenue will be seen, rt., at West Kennet. "Tens of thousands of sarsen stones," writes Dean Merewether, are "still scattered over these hills and their valleys: some having evidently formed 'cistvaens' with the gallery of approach to the chamber, some cromlechs, some avenues of approach to consecrated spots, some circles round the sepulchral deposits, some lines of demarcation." It is to be regretted that the number of these interesting relics of a former age is being rapidly diminished by the requirements of the builder. The rly. bridge at Windsor is built with stone from Clatford Bottom. At *Beckhampton* is an Inn, the Waggon and Horses, where refreshment may be had.]

At Marlborough the new line forms a junction with the old branch rly.,

and running mainly in chalk cuttings reaches

19½ m. *Savernake Station* (Rte. 5), where is a neat hotel, built by the Marquis of Ailesbury.

Savernake Forest, Drayton's "shaded Savernake," and *Tottenham Park*, the domain of the Marquis of Ailesbury, occupy a district 16 m. in circumf. E. of Marlborough. No traveller should neglect an opportunity of visiting this sylvan tract, thrown freely open to all, which still displays a magnificence of forest scenery peculiarly attractive to the artist, who, among its majestic oaks and graceful beeches, may realise the paintings of a Gainsborough or Hobema. It is said to be the only forest in this country in the possession of a subject. It formed part of the jointure of Queen Eleanor, and was in after times granted to the family of Seymour, Dukes of Somerset, from whom, in 1676, it passed by marriage to the Bruces. The objects of chief interest are the shattered remnants of the *King Oak*, or the *Duke's Vault*, an oak of wonderful antiquity, so called from Protector Somerset; the *Creeping Oak*, behind the keeper's lodge, with a huge limb stretched along the ground; the *Avenue of beech*, which is 4 m. long, and probably the finest in the kingdom; in the spring the gorgeous banks of rhododendron and azalea; and *Savernake Forest House*, formerly called *Tottenham House*, which is accessible to the stranger during the absence of the family.

A delightful walk, of some 5 or 6 miles, may be enjoyed from the Savernake station through the Park to Marlborough. On entering the Park gates go straight on towards the great avenue, gaining in passing on the right a view of Tottenham House, and on the left a view of the Ailesbury Column; cross the avenue and bear off across the turf a little to the right to the very beautiful church

of St. Catherine. The spire will serve as a sufficient guide till the church itself comes into view. Return to the avenue, and continue down it till you reach the open space opposite the ruins of Savernake Lodge, walk down the open grassy glade to the left as far as you feel inclined, for the sake of seeing several fine oaks which grow here. By keeping parallel to the avenue the *King Oak* may be reached without returning to it, but if there is thought to be any risk of losing the way, come back to the avenue and follow it on a little further to the *Eight Walks*, then take the Green Drive to the left which is nearest to the main avenue, and after examining the glades about the *King Oak*, make your way out of the Park by the gate at the end of the main avenue, and go down the hill to Marlborough.

Savernake may also be conveniently visited from Marlborough. It is 2 m. from Marlborough to the entrance of the forest; 3 to the Eight Walks, from which the King Oak is distant ¼ m.; and 6 to Savernake Forest House. The traveller will proceed by the Hungerford road, and in 1 m. will be climbing *Forest Hill*, with Marlborough and the vale of the Kennet before him; and to the l. on Folly Farm, the site of the Roman station of *Cunetio*. After a steep ascent he will enter the forest, and turn rt. to the *Grand Avenue* of beeches, which runs in a straight line by the *Eight Walks* to the House. It is of considerable width, and bordered by beech-trees in thick-set ranks, their towering trunks and interlacing limbs forming a vista of singular grandeur and beauty. In about a mile its continuity is interrupted by an open space; and here, from the centre of a clump of firs, the *Eight Walks* diverge to as many points of the compass, 5 leading over grass to distant forest glades, 1 S.E. to the ruins of *Savernake Lodge* (burned down Mar. 9, 1861), and 2

formed by the avenue, whose course is N. and S. The walk, running S.W., will lead you to the *King Oak*, a huge hollow trunk, 24 ft. in circumference, fast hastening to its ruin. Around are grouped many other noble old trees, a stalwart band, arrayed like the monarch in the elegant drapery of moss and fern. Close to the King stands the *Round House*, a spacious shed, where the visitor may find a welcome shelter. He can regain the avenue by another path, and proceed to *Tottenham House*. This is a large plain building, originally designed as a hunting-seat, and erected on the site of a palace of the Seymours, injured in the Great Rebellion. The view from the interior extends over a wide and noble domain. It was begun in 1781 by Thos. Bruce, first Earl of Ailesbury, and completed by the late Marquis. Among the pictures at Tottenham are the *Marriage Feast at Cana* by *Murillo*, *Samson and Delilah* by *Vandyck*, a landscape by *Gaspard Poussin*, an old copy of *Raphael's School of Athens*, and portraits of Lady Jane Seymour, *Christian Bruce*, Countess of Devonshire (*Vandyck*), the Earl of Elgin (*Corn. Jansen*), and the first Earl of Ailesbury (*Sir P. Lely*). In the library is preserved an ivory horn, silver-mounted and very curiously ornamented with subjects of the chase. It belongs to the hereditary keeper of the forest, and has been handed down for many generations through the Seymours. The N. front commands the *Ailesbury Column*, through a long perspective formed by detached masses of elm and beech; the S. front a vista cut through woods over a double line of hills, the farthest of which must be 4 m. distant. The column crowns a lofty height. It was erected in 1781, by Thos. Bruce, first Earl, commemorating the recovery of Geo. III. and various other circumstances.

The Marlborough troop of yeomanry, originally raised in 1794 by

the Marquis of Ailesbury, was nicknamed "The Potato Choppers," from the custom of training the cavalry to the use of the broadsword, by putting potatoes on sticks in one of the rides of Savernake Forest, to be cut off as they rode by at full gallop.

A pleasing *Ch.*, called *Christ Church*, with parsonage-house and school, was built in the forest by the late Marquis of Ailesbury; as well as the very beautiful and richly ornamented *St. Catherine's*, from T. H. Wyatt's designs, by the Marchioness, in memory of her mother the Countess of Pembroke, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the house.

From Savernake the new Andover line pursues its way to

$21\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Grafton Stat.* The *Ch.* of East Grafton was built by Ferrey in 1844 in the *Norman style*, chiefly at the expense of the then Marquis of Ailesbury. The painted glass in the chancel is by Willement. From Grafton extend the exposed uplands of Collingbourne Heath, and the rly. reaches at

26 m. *Collingbourne Stat.* The two little villages of *Collingbourn Kingston* and *Collingbourn Ducis*, connected by the hamlet of Collingbourn Sutton (South Town), lie about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. apart on the little streamlet from which they derive their name.

Collingbourn Kingston, has an E.E. *Ch.*, of flint and stone with Perp. additions, restored in 1862, containing an elaborate canopied monument to Sir Gilbert Pile of Collingbourn and his wife, 1626, and a brass to Const. Darell, 1495. It is a scattered village with some picturesque cottages of red brick and flint ornamentally worked. *John Norris*, the mystical divine, known for combating the opinions of Dodwell and Locke, was born at the parsonage, 1657, and died at the rectory of Bemerton, 1611.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *Collingbourn Ducis*, so called from having belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster; granted by Henry VIII. to Protector Somerset, and re-granted by Elizabeth to the Earl of Hertford. In the *Ch.*, also of flint and stonewith a square embattled tower, is a small brass to Edw. St. Maur, son of the Earl of Hertford, d. 1631, with a curious inscription.

3 m. E. is the village of *Chute*, bearing the name of a forest once extending from Savernake deep into Hampshire. *Conholt Park* is the seat of Lady Charles Wellesley; *Chute Lodge* of T. E. Fowle, Esq.

[$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. in the open country, over which the eye ranges freely, is *East Everley* (*Inn*: Crown, most excellent), traditionally the residence of King Ina, whose hunting-lodge is said to have stood near the encampment of Sidbury. The *Ch.* was re-built in 1813, but retains the Trans. Norm. font. Everley was a market-town in comparatively modern times. It stands on the old road from Marlborough to Salisbury, which ran most of the way over the turf. The lordship belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, and was granted by Hen. VIII. to Sir Ralph Sadleir, afterwards Falconer to Queen Elizabeth, d. 1587, a worthy knight, appointed to guard the unfortunate Queen of Scots at Tutbury, but so fond of hawking that he could not refrain from it, or from allowing his prisoner to participate in the amusement, for which he was severely reprimanded. His portrait still hangs on the walls of

Everley House (Mrs. Curtis), probably built by Sir R. Sadleir, formerly the home of the Sir Francis D. Astley, whose electioneering exploits in 1818 occupy a conspicuous place in the annals of Wiltshire, and now the property of Sir John Dugdale Astley, Bart., containing some good pictures; one, life-size, of Sir F. D. Astley and Lady Astley with her horse and dog,

by Sir J. Reynolds. Another represents two duels fought on horseback by Sir John de Astley in the reign of Hen. VI.: one with a Frenchman in the street of St. Antoine in Paris; the other with a knight of Arragon in Smithfield. The house was much injured by fire (1881), but the pictures, &c., were saved. The gardens retain their ancient character, with curious examples of the topiary art in box and yew.

$28\frac{1}{2}$ m. the rly. reaches the little town of

Ludgershall (the *Inns* are but village alehouses, Queen's Head and Crown), pleasantly situated on high ground, over which sweep invigorating breezes from Salisbury Plain. It was formerly a borough town, returning 2 members, and of some importance in early times, but is now only a village of thatched cottages, built of red brick and flint. The ancient name was Lutegar's Hall, from some Saxon owner. The Empress Maud took refuge here in her wars with Stephen A.D. 1141. The seal of her chief partisan, Milo Earl of Gloucester, was found in the neighbourhood some years ago. Marlborough and Ludgershall Castles were sometimes held under the crown by one and the same Governor. Among these officers we find the name of Geoffry Fitzpiers, Earl of Essex and Chief Justice of England, at whose death John is reported to have exclaimed, "Now, indeed, I shall be king and lord of this realm!" In 1464, Edw. IV. granted it with 200 acres of park at Collingbourne to George Duke of Clarence. Soon after Edw. VI. it became the property of the Brydges family, ancestors of the Duke of Chandos. The castle was "clene down" at Leland's visit, 1540. Subsequent owners have been Selwyns, Sidneys, and Sir James Graham. The *Castle* is at the N. end of the village, but there is little

more than a fragment of the Norman keep, now forming part of a farmyard wall, encompassed by an earthen rampart and two deep ditches. A pleasant view is gained from the spot, the eye ranging in a northerly direction over *Collingbourn Wood*, 2 m. in extent.

On the roadside, by the Queen's Head, is the foot of an ancient *Cross*, rudely sculptured.

The *Ch.* is of flint, and contains the Jacobean tomb of Sir Richard Brydges, Knt., and of his wife, whose effigies repose within an archway between the S. transept and nave.

Biddesden House, 1½ m. E. (Rev. Thos. Everett), was built by Gen. Webb, who served in the Duke of Marlborough's campaigns, and was once occupied by the Duke of Chandos. *Crawlboys Wood* preserves the name of an ancient Norman owner, Croillebois.

The railway soon crosses the Wiltshire border, and reaches 32½ m.

Weyhill Stat., and 36¼ m.

Andover Junction Stat.

Should the route be taken about the beginning of October, the tourist should be reminded that *Weyhill Fair*, one of the largest in England, commences on the 10th of that month, when, in the language of Carlyle, "assembling from all the four winds come the elements of an unspeakable hurly-burly." 140,000 sheep have changed hands on the first day. The staple commodities of the fair are Dorsetshire sheep, Farnham hops, and the cheeses of the neighbouring counties. In 1784 great damage was done at this fair by fire, which destroyed many booths and much property.

ROUTE 4.

CHIPPENHAM TO FROME BY MELKSHAM [LACOCK], TROWBRIDGE, BRADFORD [MONKTON FARLEIGH, FARLEIGH CASTLE, HINTON CHARTERHOUSE], AND WESTBURY.

(*Wilts and Somerset Rly.*)

94 m. from Paddington, *Chippenham Stat.* (Rte. 1). Between Chippenham and Corsham the flank of the chalk hills, and in front of them the greensand, which for many a mile has limited the view from the railway, turns abruptly towards the S., where the railway throws off a branch in the same direction.

After leaving the main line the traveller may observe on the heights to the l. *Bowden Park* and *Spye Park*, and in the vale, by the side of the Avon, 3 m. *Lacock Abbey* (see *post*). ½ m. beyond Lacock the railway crosses the line of the Roman road from Bath to Marlborough.

100 MELKSHAM Stat. (Pop. 2182, a decrease from that in 1871, attributed to the diminished activity of the clothing and dyeing trades). (*Inns*: King's Arms; Bear.) The town lies ¼ m. to the l. on one of the old mail-coach roads from London to Bath. It is seated on the left bank of the *Avon*, and on the Wilts and Berks Canal, and gives name to the hundred in which it is situated. It consists principally of one street nearly a mile long. Melksham is a clean old-fashioned town. A *Town-hall* in the Italian style was erected in 1847, by a company of shareholders, at a cost of 3000*l.* The

principal manufacture is that of cloth. The Avon is crossed by a handsome bridge of 4 arches, near which is a very large corn-mill, and a cloth-factory and dye-house.

Melksham in Norman times was a populous town, although surrounded by *Melksham Forest*, a favourite scene of the hunting exploits of Edward I. At a later age it had evidently much declined in importance, as Leland has passed it without notice in his description of this neighbourhood. Near the town several mineral springs, a sulphureous chalybeate, and 2 saline, well up from the beds of the Oxford clay. On the discovery of a saline spring in 1816, high anticipations were raised, and a pump-room, baths, and other accommodations for visitors were erected, but the wells proved unattractive, and have fallen into disuse.

The *Ch.* was originally a Norm. cruciform building, traces of which style appear in the pilaster buttresses, and billet moulding at the E. end, and the mouldings at the W. end of the aisles. The central tower, on low Norm. arches, was taken down in 1840 by Wyatt, and rebuilt at the W. end, preserving its old summit. The nave arcade is Early Dec. with low cylindrical piers. There is a very fine Perp. chapel, S. The chancel was fitted with choir stalls and a new oak ceiling by the late Mr. G. E. Street in 1881. A tithebarn to the W. of the Ch. is used as the parish schoolroom.

[The visitor may well pause at Melksham to examine the places of archaeological interest in which the neighbourhood is peculiarly rich, including *Lacock Abbey* (which may also be reached from Chippenham, 3 m.), *Spye Park*, *Bromham*, and the manor houses of *Great Chaldfield* and *South Wrazall*.

Lacock Abbey is 3 m. N. on the

road to Chippenham. The hill which rises abruptly from it commands one of the finest prospects in the county—embracing woodland heights, forming the parks of *Bowden* and *Spye*, which, with the “Great Wood” of Lord Lansdowne’s extensive domain of Bowood contrast finely with the naked slopes of the chalk which are seen across an intervening valley.

Lacock Abbey, long the property and residence of the late W. H. Fox Talbot, Esq., the well-known inventor of the “Talbotype,” and now of his son, C. H. Talbot, Esq., is situated on the *Avon*, below the heights of Bowden Park. *Lacock* is a place of great antiquity. Here stood one of the 3 “*Castella*” founded by the British king, *Dynwal Moelmyd*. Another was at *Malmesbury*, and a third at *Tetbury*. *Lacock* was founded as an Augustine nunnery in 1232 by *Ela Countess of Salisbury*, who, in 1238, entered the establishment as a nun, and shortly afterwards was elected its abbess. She founded it in memory of her deceased husband *William Longespée*, the natural son of *Henry II.* and in his wife’s right *Earl of Sarum*. In the reign of *Henry VIII.*, 1539, after a 3 years’ reprieve, as one of the 30 lesser monasteries, *Lacock* was confiscated to the king. It was sold (1541) to *Sir William Sherington*, who adapted the conventual buildings to form a residence for himself; and, dying without issue, his brother *Henry’s* daughter carried the estate by marriage to the *Talbots*. During the *Rebellion* the *Abbey* was fortified and garrisoned for *Charles I.*; and in 1645 was besieged by a detachment of *Fairfax’s* army, to whom it surrendered by capitulation, Sept. 24, at the first summons, the garrison being alarmed by the fall of *Bristol* and *Devizes*.

The *Talbots* are said to owe their inheritance of *Lacock* to a romantic incident, which, however, is probably fabulous. *Olive*, one of the

daughters and co-heiresses of Sir Henry Sherington, being in love with John Talbot of Salwarpe, Worcester-shire, contrary to her father's wishes, and "discoursing one night with him from the battlements of the abbey church, said she, 'I will leap downe to you.' Her sweetheart replied he would catch her then: but he did not believe she would have done it. She leapt down, and the wind, which was then high, came under her coates, and did something break the fall. Mr. Talbot caught her in his armes, but she struck him dead; she cried for help, and he was with great difficulty brought to life again. Her father thereon told her that since she had made such a leap she should e'en marrie him." So runs the tale, as reported by Aubrey, who was personally acquainted with the grandson of the lady, whose assumed portrait is still preserved in the abbey.

The present house retains nearly the whole of the monastic building, variously adapted by Sir W. Sherington and subsequent owners to suit domestic requirements, and still presents one of the most perfect remaining examples of conventual arrangement. The modern mansion surrounds the ancient cloister court. To the S., by a somewhat unusual arrangement, of which Canterbury, Gloucester, and Malmesbury are examples, stood the conventual *Ch.*, long and narrow, and apparently aisleless, 120 ft. in length, of which only the N. wall remains, pierced with modern windows to light the long gallery over the S. wall of the cloisters, enlarged and improved by Mr. Fox Talbot. Traces of the original lancets are to be seen on the western bays. The site of the *Ch.* forms a terrace walk. The cloister ambulatories surround 3 sides of the court, E., N., and S. They are of excellent Perp. design, vaulted throughout with a rich lierne roof with elaborate bosses. The 2 W. bays on the S. side are the earliest

and have the richer groining. The windows are of Perp. tracery. Towards the W. end of the N. walk are traces of the E.E. lavatory, and of the E.E. door to the Refectory.

On the E. side of the cloisters (beginning from the S., or ch. wall), we have first the *Sacristy*, and then the *Chapter-house*. Both have E.E. vaulting carried by a row of central pillars. Then follow the *Slype*, or passage, with an E.E. doorway, and the *Calefactory*, or *Day Room*, erroneously called the "Nuns' Kitchen," vaulted in two alleys, with a fireplace. Two rooms with a plain barrel vault succeed. The whole of the upper story on this side was occupied by the Perp. *Dormitory*, 138 ft. by 26 ft., still covered by its fine timber roof, which may be seen in the upper rooms; a large pointed window may be traced in the N. gable. The N. side of the cloister-court is occupied by the undercroft of the *Refectory*, also vaulted in two alleys, and a passage. The Refectory roof is Perp. and there have been rose windows in the S. wall. The present *Kitchen* at the W. end, occupies the site of the conventual kitchen. Both Refectory and Dormitory have been divided by floors at the springing at the roof, and converted into chambers below. Those in the Dormitory open out of a long stone gallery formed by Sir W. Sherington, which has a very beautiful Renaissance chimneypiece, and is full of curiosities and works of art. Among these are some carved oak chairs bearing the Talbot lion, a bronze pestle and mortar bearing Sherington's name, and a pair of elk antlers of remarkable size. The *Library* adjoins the gallery to the S. One of the chambers is supposed to have been that in which Queen Elizabeth slept when she was here in 1574 and knighted her host, Sir H. Sherington, but it has been much modernized. At the S. E. angle of the house adjacent to the

Library is an octagonal tower, built by Sir W. Sherington, containing 3 rooms, one above the other. The two lower have vaulted ceilings, that of the *Muniment-room* on the first floor of very singular design deserving notice. Both this room and that above contain very remarkable stone tables richly carved in the Renaissance style, with the initials W. S. All Sherington's work, though thoroughly pagan in feeling, is exquisite in design, and will reward close attention. Among other valuable documents preserved in the Muniment-room is an original copy of the "Great Charter" of Henry III., 1225, sent to Ela, Countess of Salisbury, as hereditary Sheriff of Wilts. On the W. side of the cloisters is the *Hall* in Batty-Langley Gothic, the work of J. Ivory Talbot, c. 1748, who also made the present *Dining Room*, a handsome Palladian apartment, containing some good pictures: Henry VIII., *Holbein*; Charles I. and Henrietta Maria, after *Vandyck*; and a very singular composition, "The Arts and Sciences," *Cornelius van Haarlem*. Beneath the hall are some ancient apartments, including one vaulted from a single central pillar. The *Base Court*, N.W., built by Sherington, is very picturesque with enormous dormers, and a very quaint clock tower and bell turret.

In the cloisters are several monumental slabs, including that of the foundress, Ela, removed from the church, bearing the following inscription:

Infra sunt defossa Elæ venerabilis ossa,
Quæ dedit has sedes sacras monialibus ædes,
Abbatissa quidem quæ sancte vixit ibidem,
Et comitissa Sarum virtutum plena bonarum.

In the Chapter-house is the memorial slab of Ilbertus de Chat, brought from Monkton Farleigh (see *post*, p. 56).

In the last century the doors from the cloisters into the Chapter-house [*Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.*]

and other rooms on the E. side were walled up, and the end walls towards the garden demolished, converting them into alcoves and garden-houses. To the N.E. lie the ponds or stews for fish. Beyond stands the so-called *Nuns' Caldron*, a huge vessel of bronze or bell-metal, cast at Mechlin, in 1500, by Peter Wagheuens, estimated to hold 67 gallons, bearing the inscription: "A Petro Waghevens in Mechlinia effusus factvs ve fveram Anno Domini millesimo qvingentesimo. Deo laus et Gloria Cristo." The *Abbey Barn* of the 14th cent. and the *restored Market Cross* deserve notice.

Lacock Ch. (St. Cyriack, an almost unique dedication) is a very interesting cruciform building. The W. tower and spire and transepts are Dec. The spire is late Perp. The nave Perp. and very rich. A groined Perp. porch has been added to the W. of the tower, and there is a highly ornate and highly coloured Lady Chapel, with elaborate fan-traceried ceiling, of the time of Henry VII. The chancel is modern, 1776, and the transepts were unfortunately raised in 1861. In the S. transept there is a brass to Robert Baynard and wife, 1501, and in the Lady-chapel there is a rich Renaissance canopied tomb to Sir W. Sherington, 1566, and a sumptuous Corinthian marble monument to Sir John Talbot, d. 1713. The canopied niche in the N. wall of the chapel, and those at the apex of the gables, as at St. John's, Devizes, deserve notice. The sacramental plate includes a mediæval ciborium now used as the chalice.

At *Lacock Ch. Bp. Jewel*, in 1571, preached his last sermon, when making a visitation to the churches of his diocese. It was from the text "Walk in the spirit." He went from the pulpit to his bed at Monkton Farleigh, and died there in a few days, 1571.

Rather less than 2 m. W. of Lacock

on the top of the hill, commanding an extensive view, is the embattled entrance-gateway to *Spye Park*, brought from old Bromham House. The old house, for many years the residence of the Bayntuns, and afterwards of the Starkeys, was built about 1650 by the Bayntun family, after the destruction of Bromham House in 1645. It was of brick, and, with the exception of one room, of no great size, but it rested on the verge of a charming hill. Evelyn visited it, 1654, and describes it in his 'Diary' as "a place capable of being made a noble seat; but the humorous old knight has built a long single house of 2 low stories on the precipice of an incomparable prospect." This house was taken down, 1868, by J. W. G. Spicer, Esq., and a new house built by him near the old site. The Roman road from Bath to London crosses the park of 500 acres, containing every element of the picturesque. If bound to Bromham the stranger will find a delightful path to that village just below the gatehouse. It runs across the fields, behind *Spye Park* old house, and by the hamlet of Chittoe: the distance about 2 m.

Bromham can be visited either from Melksham or Devizes, being equidistant (4 m.) from these towns. It consists of a group of picturesque cottages. The Greyhound Inn deserves notice.

Old Bromham House was erected, temp. Hen. VIII. with the spoils of Devizes Castle and Corsham Manor House, and is described as being "nearly as large as Whitehall, and fit to entertain a king." Standing close on the old Western Road it became one of the usual halting-places for the nobility and gentry on their way to "the Bath." Royalty sometimes sojourned there. James I. visited Bromham in 1616, and again 1618 and 1621, and hunted in the

park. The house was burnt by the forces of Col. Lloyd and the king in 1645. Only part of one wing remains. Some of the stones were used in erecting the lodge in *Spye Park*. Sir Edward Bayntun of Bromham was Latimer's patron. He died in France in 1544 while attending Henry VIII. as Vice-Chancellor.

The *Ch.* is a fine building with a S. aisle to nave and chancel, and a central tower with stone spire. The prevailing style is Perp.; but the nave was, originally Norm. Small Norm. windows, walled up, exist in the N. wall. The chancel (rebuilt) is E. E. with a shafted eastern triplet. The S. aisle adjacent to the tower has flat stone groining with a large pendant. The chancel aisle or Bayntun Chapel, temp. Hen. VII., is very rich both within and without, with a flat panelled roof painted and gilt. This chapel contains the monumental effigies, penons, and rusty armour of the Bayntuns of Bromham. A canopied tomb with a brass to Sir Edward B. and his 2 wives, 1578; a brass to John B., 1516; and a Purbeck marble altar-tomb, with a full-length effigy of Sir Roger Tocotes, 2nd husband of Lady St. Amand, and a tablet to Henry Season, M.D., author of an almanac which he whimsically entitled 'Season on the Seasons.' On the N. side of the churchyard is the grave of *Thomas Moore*, the poet, who died 1852 at his cottage at *Sloperton*, between Bromham and Chitway. The stained glass in the W. window, representing the Last Judgment, was put up in 1879 to the poet's memory.

Bromham in the time of Edward the Confessor was the lordship of Earl Harold. In the reign of Henry VI. it belonged to William Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand, and from the son of that nobleman it passed to his cousins the Bayntuns. Bromham was the birthplace of George Webbe, Bp. of Limerick, d. 1641,

and of the Rev. J. Collinson, the historian of Somerset, d. 1793.

1 m. N. of Bromham, near Wans House, the Roman station of *Verlucio* is supposed to have stood, on the Roman road which ran by Bath and Marlborough, indicated by such names as *Hawk-street* and *Nether-street*. *Nonsuch Park* is a pretty spot near this village. *Seend Manor-house* (see Rte. 5), 3 m. S.E. of Melksham, is now a seat of the Awdrys.

At *Great Chaldfield*, 3 m. W., are the very beautiful and interesting remains of a fine manor-house of the 15th centy., presumed to have been built by Thomas Tropenell, who died 1490, and, with Agnes his wife, is buried under a rich altar-tomb in Corsham Ch. "The N. front is nearly perfect, with the porch and its groined roof, the hall in the centre flanked by a gabled building at each end, each with an oriel, that nearest the ch. being of singular beauty. The whole front is one of the most elaborate and finest that we have."—*J. H. P.* Unfortunately now, this front is nearly all that remains; the "guest chamber" behind the eastern oriel was pulled down, the hall cut up into rooms, the screens and gallery destroyed, and the whole interior ruthlessly modernized some years since. Engravings of the hall in its former state, with the curious masks of stone through which a view might be obtained of the hall from the upper chambers at either end, and which are still preserved, may be found, vol. iii. Walker's 'Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages' (which also contains engravings of *Wraxall*), and vol. iii. of Pugin's 'Examples of Gothic Architecture.' The little ch. adjoins the house towards the N.E., and may almost be said to form a part of it, as it is within the moat which encircles the whole. This also has suffered greatly from alterations, but much

remains of beauty and interest: the bell-turret, with its spire crowning the W. gable, and the hooded groined W. porch are probably of the date of Henry VII. The S. chapel and the very fine stone screen were erected by the builder of the manor-house, and, as at Corsham Ch., bear his arms and motto, "le jong tyra belement." The stone screen has been removed, and now separates the chancel from the nave; and an addition was made to the S.E. in the last centy. The register dates from 1545, and contains hardly any name but that of Eyre. The house was occupied as a military post in the civil wars, traces of which may be seen in the loopholed gable. A round tower of defence stands at the N.E. corner of the churchyard. The water of the moat turns a mill which occupies the site of one which existed here at the time of the Domesday Survey.

Little Chaldfield, further W., belonged at one time to the Eyres, but the house is quite modern.

2 m. further W. is the manor-house of *S. Wraxall*, a very beautiful and interesting example of mediæval domestic architecture. The buildings surround 3 sides of a court, with the gatehouse to the S. and the hall facing W., with Perp. windows and a square one flanked by huge gabled drawing-room, added by Sir Walter Long c. 1600. The gurgoyles are singularly large and hideous. The oldest portions are the entrance gateway and the fine oriel of the room over it, and the hall with its porch and bays, probably a work of the time of Henry VII. (*J. H. P.*) or perhaps built by Walter Long, M.P. for Wiltshire, 1433. The roof of the hall was partly hidden by a plaster ceiling, and a rich fireplace inserted in 1598. A covered way leads from the hall to the kitchen. The drawing-room is very large and hand-

some, with a richly ornamented plaster ceiling and an elaborate chimney-piece with carved figures of Prudence, Justice, Geometry, and Arithmetic, with Pan in the centre and quaint inscriptions. Opposite the fireplace is a singular projection to carry the wall-plate of the old roof. Out of this a short flight of steps leads to a bedroom of the same date, the most remarkable feature of which is the fireplace with a baboon on a bracket and its three mottoes, "Faber est quisq. fortunæ suæ," "Æqua laus est a laudatis laudari et ab improbis improbari," "Mors rapit omnia." Some time may be pleasantly spent in rambling over this old mansion.

At a short distance from the house are the remains of a very curious "hospitium" of the 13th century, dedicated to St. Audoen (or Owen), consisting of a chapel, hall and dwelling-house, for the reception and entertainment of wayfarers, turned into a house of the 17th centy., and still further modernized. A stone screen of foliated arches remains almost concealed in modern partitions and floors.

The *Ch.* of S. Wraxall (in course of restoration 1882) has a tower with a packsaddle roof and of somewhat foreign character. The late Perp. porch and Long chapel adjoining are of almost debased character.]

Returning to our route the rly. descends the valley of the Avon, and reaches

101½ m. on rt. *Broughton Gifford*, which gave a title to the late Lord Broughton, formerly known as Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Lord Byron's fellow-traveller and friend. It has a *Ch.* with E. E. portions and a Perp. tower.

103 m. *Holt Junction*, where a branch strikes off l. by Seend to Devizes and Hungerford (Rte. 5), and

a little further rt. *Staverton* with its large factory. The *ch.* is modern.

105½ m. TROWBRIDGE (*Inn: George*. Pop. 11,041), where a line diverges W. to Bradford and Bath. It still, as in Leland's days, "standith on a rocky hill" above the little river Biss, a tributary of the Avon, and "flourishith by drapery," i. e. the manufacture of cloth, which is carried on with great activity, employing many hands; but it cannot now be said to be "very well buildyd of stone," the streets being irregular, and the houses ill-built. In 1100 Trowbridge was among the 38 manors in the county of Wilts, of a Norman noble, Edward of Salisbury. Through the marriage of his daughter Matilda to Humphry de Bohun (the founder of Monkton Farleigh Priory in 1126), Trowbridge passed to that family, the lordship of the manor, however, remaining in the family of Edward of Salisbury, and through the marriage of Henry IV. with Mary de Bohun, the two became again united in the Crown; the manor was granted, 1536, by Henry VIII. to Edward Seymour, his brother-in-law, afterwards Protector Somerset.

Trowbridge, like many of our country towns, was first built around a *Castle*, which, during the Norman period, stood on an eminence now called *Court Hill*. One of the first notices of Trowbridge Castle occurs in the reign of Stephen, when, the place being held for the Empress Maud by Humphry de Bohun, it was besieged by the king. We find it next mentioned in the time of Edward III., when it was held by John of Gaunt, by whom the castle is said to have been rebuilt. When Leland visited Trowbridge in Henry VIII.'s time it was "clene down." Not a fragment of the castle now remains, but the contour of the moat and val-lum may still be traced in the principal street (Fore St.), to which it gives its curved outline. In 1861 a market-

house was built by Wm. Stancomb, Esq., the lord of the manor. The manor was bestowed by Henry VIII. on the Somerset family, from whom it passed by marriage to the Duke of Rutland, and after sundry changes by sale to the present owner. The name Trowbridge has perplexed etymologists. Leland calls the place Thorough bridge: Camden Trubridge: Gough Trolbridge. The true etymology is *Trolebyrig*, the castle by the Trowle. Beyond the town W. are a tithing called Trowle and Trowle Common. The bridge over the Biss was called Trowle bridge, but the castle existed many centuries before the bridge was built.

The *Ch.* (St. James), known as "the New Church" till the erection of Holy Trinity Ch. in 1830, is a fine Perp. building, unmixed with any earlier style, of excellent masonry, erected c. 1475, James Terumber, a rich clothier, being the chief contributor to the fabric; restored in 1848, and almost entirely rebuilt on the old plan. The *tower* stands engaged at the W. end and supports a lofty stone spire, and has fine groining within, as have the 2 large porches. The open roof of the nave is one of considerable beauty. The font is lofty, carved with the emblems of the Crucifixion. The whole building deserves Leland's character of "light-some and fair." From the year 1814 to 1832 the Rev. *George Crabbe*, the poet, was rector here. He lies in the chancel, under a monument by Baily. Crabbe spent a lusty old age at Trowbridge, and was in the habit of rambling for hours together, hammer in hand, among the quarries near the town. His firmness and mildness gained him the respect and esteem which the character of his preaching had at first denied him:—

" 'A moral teacher,' some contemptuous cried,
He smiled, but nothing of the fact denied."
Tales of the Hall.

There is a chapel, built 1852, in the hamlet of Studley.

Rood Ashton (W. H. Long, Esq.), 2 m. S.E., takes its name from a famous crucifix or "holy rood" that stood here. The *Ch.* at West Ashton was built by Mr. Walter Long, 1846. The manor of Ashton was bestowed by King Edgar with that of Edington, c. 959, on Romsey Abbey. It remained abbey property to the Dissolution, when, in 1538, it was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thos. Seymour Lord Sudeley. About 2 m. further is the village of *Steeple Ashton*, properly "*Staple*," or *Market Ashton*—(the right of holding a market there having been granted by Royal Charter to the Abbess of Romsey in 1387); Leland speaks of it as "a pretty little market-town. It hath pretty buildings. It standeth much by cloathiers." Early in the 16th century it suffered much by fire, and its trade was transferred to Market Lavington. In the middle of the street a column supporting a ball indicates the site of the market cross, erected in 1679. The interesting *Ch.*, was erected between 1480 and 1500: the N. aisle was built at the cost of Robert Long, a clothier, and Edith his wife; the S. aisle at the cost of Walter Lucas, also a clothier, and Maud his wife. The *ch.* is Perp. with lofty clerestory, and the whole of the exterior is of the finest masonry and well finished. The S. porch is large, with a parvis and good groining. The chancel, with its aisles, is also groined, the ribs intricate in pattern, with fine bosses. In the chancel the ribs spring from clustered shafts standing upon the capitals of the pillars of the arcade: in the aisles the ribs rest on niches set upon angel figures. The nave has wood groining, the ribs springing from stone shafts. The tower is engaged with the aisles, and once had a spire, which had the misfortune of being twice destroyed by lightning. The arcades are lofty and imposing, the windows large and good, and con-

tain some fragments of ancient glass. The chancel was rebuilt in 1853. A very elaborately carved wooden pulpit was added 1874.

The picturesque ruins of *Farleigh Castle* (see *post*, p. 57) are about 4 m. W. from Trowbridge.

4½ m. S.W., on the confines of Wilts and Somerset, is the village of *Road*, of sad celebrity for the "Constance Kent tragedy." The parish *Ch.* is a fine one; one corner of the battlements of the tower is known as "the King's Chair," from a tradition that on his flight from the field of Worcester Charles II. reconnoitred the country thence.

From Trowbridge a short branch of 3¼ m. runs to Bradford, and thence by the valley of Avon to Bath (Rte. 5).

BRADFORD-ON-AVON (*Inn*: Swan. Pop. 10,860), an ancient town of much historical interest, formerly the seat of an important woollen manufacture, Leland (temp. Henry VIII.) describing it as "standing by clooth-making;" but from various causes, partly from the close vicinity of Trowbridge, partly from greater facilities of coal, &c., in the West Riding of Yorkshire and elsewhere, its business declined, failures became frequent, the factories were closed, the population rapidly diminished and distress was general. Its condition has been for some time improving. The handsome Town Hall (Fuller, *Arch.*) was erected in 1855. Bradford is most prettily situated in the hollow and on the steep slopes and terraces of the valley of the Avon, up which the houses straggle in picturesque confusion; and, being all built of grey stone, without being blackened by the usual smoke of an overcrowded manufacturing hive, it is not only cleanly and pleasantly habitable, but decidedly picturesque.

Bradford takes its name from "the broad ford" over the Avon, which

was used by all wheel-carriages to a comparatively recent date; the bridge having been originally much narrower than now.

The first event in the history of Bradford is the victory gained by Cenwealh, king of Wessex, over the revolted Britons, A.D. 652. "The first conquest which was not one of extermination, but which allowed the vanquished Briton to sit among the fellow subjects of his English conqueror."—(*E. A. F.*) The next is the foundation of a monastery by Aldhelm, Bp. of Sherborne, c. 705. After this Bradford gradually rose in importance until in 957 the Witanagemote was held here at which Dunstan was appointed Bp. of Worcester. The manor was conferred by Ethelred in 1001 on the abbess of Shaftesbury, in order that in those unquiet times she and her nuns might have a place of refuge from the insults of the Danes, and a safe hiding-place for the relics of St. Edward the Martyr. The increasing wealth and prosperity of the town is indicated by the erection of a large ch., in the 12th cent., which, though altered and enlarged, remains to the present day. In 1216, Bradford received the dubious honour of a visit from John, within 2 months of the close of his reign. From 1300 to 1500 the town gradually rose in prosperity. The woollen manufacture was established here, and large fortunes were accumulated by several of the more enterprising townsmen. In the 17th cent. Paul Methuen, the leading clothier of his day, raised the character of the manufacture by the introduction of "Spinners" from Holland, from whom the secret of producing the finer kinds of cloth—the staple produce of Bradford up to this time having been merely a coarse kind of drugget—was acquired. The part of the town where these "Spinners" lived, at the W. end of Church Street, is still known as "Dutch Barton."

The *Ch.* (Holy Trinity, well restored 1865-6, by the exertions of the Vicar, Canon Jones) stands low, and though not highly distinguished for architectural beauty well deserves a visit. It consists of a nave, with N. aisle, chancel, chantry to S.E. of nave, and W. tower with low spire. The S. wall of the nave and western portion of the chancel are Norman of the middle of the 12th cent.; one of the original windows is to be seen in the nave and another has been re-opened in the chancel. In the Dec. period the chancel was lengthened. The interior is spacious and effective. The arcade is entirely new, the 2 W. arches, the piers of which are wreathed with an inscribed band, were the gift of a lady of the town. The stone pulpit is a memorial of Canon Harvey, a former Vicar. In the N. aisle wall is a richly panellled recess for a crucifix. The Hall chapel or Kingston aisle is at the S.E. of the nave. The roof of the chancel is modern, 1881. The E. window is a very elegant example of the Dec. style. The N. aisle shows marks of having been built at two different dates. The tower, groined within, is of the latter part of the 15th cent. In the chancel are 2 remarkably curious recessed tombs with mutilated effigies of members of the Hall family—on the N. side of a female (probably Agnes Hall, d. 1270), on the S. of a cross-legged knight, under canopies. A fragment of another female effigy, discovered in the N. aisle, is placed in the chancel. There is a brass of the 16th cent. to a clothier of the town, Thomas Horton, the probable builder of the tower, and his wife Mary; and another to Anne Long, 1601. A pretentious marble monument with full-length effigies in the costume of the reign of James II. commemorates "Charles Steward," a son of Dr. Steward, provost of Eton and successor of Bp. Williams as Dean of West-

minster. There are also monuments to the Methuens and Threshers. An erection resembling an altar-tomb outside the S. door of the chancel is probably a "dole stone," used for the distribution of alms or doles to the poor. William Byrd, Vicar of the parish, was attainted in the reign of Henry VIII., A.D. 1539, for traitorous words against the king as a heretic. He was chaplain to Walter Lord Hungerford (see *post*, Farleigh Castle), who fell under the king's displeasure at the same time and for the same act.

Closely adjacent to the ch. on the N. is a very remarkable and interesting building, formerly used as the free school, but now cleared of all encumbrances, and restored to its sacred purposes by the energy of the Rev. Canon Jones, "probably the most ancient unaltered ch. in England, showing the singular analogy between the earlier and later imitations of Roman architecture."—(*E.A.F.*) There can be no reasonable doubt that it is the actual church built by Aldhelm at the beginning of the 8th cent., dedicated to St. Lawrence, described in the early part of the 12th cent. by Wm. of Malmesbury, who says of it: "Est ad hunc diem in eo loco (apud Bradeford) ecclesiola quam ad nomen beatissimi Laurentii (Aldhelmus) fecisse prædicatur." It consists of a chancel, nave and N. porch, and has most of the features of the class of buildings called Anglo-Saxon. There is an incised arcade along the outside, walls and on either side of the chancel arch are sculptured figures of angels.

On the summit of *Tory Hill*, the highest part of the town, just above the "Lady Well," which supplies the town with water, is a small Perp. chapel dedicated to the B. V. Mary, long in ruins but recently restored by its owner.

The river Avon is crossed by two *Bridges*. That in the centre of the town is ancient and deserves notice.

Aubrey, 200 years ago, described it as "a strong handsome bridge in the midst of which is a chapel for mass." This chapel, though much modernized and formerly degraded to the purpose of a lock-up house, is still to be seen on the central pier on the E. side.

The town abounds in antique-looking gable-fronted houses, built and roofed with stone. The most remarkable of these (conspicuous from the railway), known as the *Duke's* or *Kingston House*, was built by one of the family of *Hall*, rich clothiers here, probably John Hall, head of the family at the beginning of the 17th cent. It is a noble specimen of the Jacobean style, with an excess of window, arabesque battlements, and classical details, and may have been a work of the same hand as Longleat, of the character of which it partakes. The house takes its modern name from the Pierreponts, Dukes of Kingston, to whom it passed by marriage. The notorious Duchess of Kingston, the bigamist, is said to have resided here occasionally, and old people still tell traditional tales of her eccentricities. At her death the estates passed to the last Duke's nephew, afterwards Earl Manvers, but the house was sold to Mr. Divett, and by him to its late owner, S. Moulton, Esq., by whom it was most carefully restored. Some of the mantelpieces, rich with heraldic insignia, and ceilings deserve notice.

The archæologist should cross Barton Bridge and visit *Barton Farm*, famous for its gigantic barn, of the 14th cent. It has two arched entrances, like transepts, and its roof is so framed as to be independent of the walls. Part of the farmhouse and a small bridge belong to the same period.

Next to the Halls, the Methuens are the most noteworthy family connected with Bradford. Their ancestor John Methuen, a member of the historic Scotch family of that

name, driven from Scotland by religious persecution, found a favourable reception from Q. Elizabeth. His grandson, Anthony, was Prebendary of Wells and Vicar of Frome 1609-40. It was his son Paul who settled at Bradford and raised the character of its manufactures by the introduction of weavers from Holland. He was the father of John, and grandfather of Sir Paul Methuen, distinguished diplomatists, buried in Westminster Abbey, and ancestor of the present Lord Methuen of Corsham.

Woolley House, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., was the property of the Baskervilles. *Turley House*, N., was an occasional residence of *Edmund Burke*. In the neighbourhood of the town are many pleasant valleys, embosomed in lofty hills, especially that of the *Avon*. A short ride by rly. (or the path by the canal) will bring you to *Freshford*, *Limpley Stoke*, or *Claverton*, three of the prettiest spots in the Avon valley.

[4 m. N.E. of Bradford is *Monkton Farleigh*, on very high ground above the valley of the Avon, commanding a magnificent panoramic prospect. The best points of view are a clump of trees known as *Farleigh Clump*, and the *Prospect Tower*, erected by Mr. Wade Brown, on the top of the precipitous hill above Bathford. Monkton Farleigh was the seat of a Cluniac priory, founded as a cell of Lewes, 1125. At the Dissolution it was granted to Protector Somerset, who in 1550 exchanged it with the Bp. of Salisbury. The remains of the priory are of the scantiest. In the outhouses behind the mansion (Sir Charles Hobhouse, Bart.) are some lancet windows, and there are several stone effigies including one of a cross-legged knight, one of the Dunstanvilles. The monumental slab of Ilbertus de Chat, discovered in 1744 when the pavement of the chancel

was laid bare, is at Lacock Abbey (see *ante*). The *Monks' Conduit*, a small stone-roofed building, lies $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of the house. The mansion was once the residence of Lord Webb Seymour. Bp. Jewel died at his manor-house of Monkton Farleigh, where he took to his bed after preaching his last sermon at Lacock. The *Ch.* is modern, but retains the old tower and a Norman door. A fine avenue, 1 m. long, leads from the house towards S. Wraxall. The quarries of Bath-stone are worth a visit. (See *supra*, Box, Rte 1.)]

[*Farleigh Castle*, 3 m. S.W. (*Inn*: Houlton Arms), is one of the most interesting objects to be seen from Bradford. The visitor can either go by road, or take the rly. to *Freshford Stat.*, from which the castle is 2 m. It is 4 m. W. of the *Trowbridge Stat.*, and 6 m. N. from *Frome*. Farleigh Castle is a favourite excursion from Bath, 8 m. by road, or by rly. to *Freshford*.

The road from Bradford to Farleigh passes through

2 m. S.W., *Westwood*, where the *Ch.* deserves attention. It has a "wildish sort of tower" (*E. A. F.*) of the Somersetshire type, with a difference. The large belfry windows are filled with perforated stonework. At the S.E. corner is a large turret with a domical cap. The chancel shows some lancets and contains some very beautiful stained glass of the 15th cent., including the Crucifixion, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Michael and St. John Baptist. Part of the ceiling is very fine. The oak pulpit (1609) and carved work was brought from Norton St. Philip and other places. The *Manor House*, a picturesque mansion of the 15th cent., built by the Hortons, has ceilings added by the Farewells, exhibiting the shells borne in their arms. The most picturesque external feature is the cylindrical staircase-

turret in the angle between the two ranges of building.

Farleigh Hungerford. The *Castle* is picturesquely situated above a wooded ravine, called Danes' Ditch. It is a complete ruin, consisting of fragments of the wall, and of 2 towers and a gatehouse. The general plan appears to have been an oval double court, with 4 towers at the angles of the inner court. Farleigh was for 300 years the chief mansion in Somersetshire of the Hungerfords, from 1369 to 1689, and had been previously held by the Montforts, by whom it was sold, 1337, to Bartholomew Lord Burghersh, and by his son, 1369, to Sir Thomas Hungerford of Heytesbury. It was converted into a castle in the reigns of Rich. II. and Hen. IV. by Sir Thomas H. and his son Walter, High Treasurer of England in the reign of Hen. VI. Leland asserts that it was built "by the prey of the Duke of Orleans whom Sir Walter had taken prisoner." This must have been Charles D. of Orleans, who was captured at Agincourt 1415. The Hungerfords were great supporters of the Lancasters in the wars of the Roses, "and in that cause liberally lost both their heads and their estates."—*Canon Jackson*. Farleigh was at one time given to Geo. Duke of Clarence. His daughter Margaret, the last of the Plantagenets, judicially murdered by Hen. VIII., was born at the Castle. She married Sir R. Pole, and had by him 4 sons, the youngest, Reginald, afterwards Cardinal Pole. In the Rebellion it was held for the king, though its owner, Sir Edw. Hungerford, was commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament. It surrendered 15th Sept. 1645. Sir Edward, his nephew, wasted his fortune in the dissolute court of Charles II., and was obliged to sell Farleigh. It was bought by Mr. Henry Bayntun, of Spye Park, who with his wife, Lady

Ann (Wilmot, sister of the Earl of Rochester) seems to have been the last who resided here. The Castle was purchased by the Houltons in 1730.

The principal entrance to the Castle was to the S.E., where the ivy-clad shell of the gate-house remains. Over the arch of entrance is the sickle of the Hungerfords, and higher still a shield of their arms, with the initials E. H. From the entrance a narrow moat, dammed up at either end, went halfway round; the castle being elsewhere protected by the steepness of the ground. On passing through the gate-house the visitor enters the *upper court*, containing the guard-rooms, stables, &c., and has before him, rt., the *chapel* and the 2 remaining of the 4 towers of the *lower or inner court*, where the habitable part of the castle was situated. The principal front faced E., rising directly from the edge of the knoll. In one of these rooms the head of the family, *temp.* Henry VIII. (Sir Walter, afterwards Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury), imprisoned the last of his 3 wives, a daughter of Lord Hussey of Sleaford, for 4 years. The unfortunate prisoner, in a still extant letter, thus states her forlorn case: "here I have byn these 3 or 4 years past without comfort of any creature, and under the custodie of my Lord's Chaplain, which hath once or twice poysoned me. He hath promised my Lord that he would 'soon rid him of me,' and I am sure he intendeth to keep his promise; for I have none other meat nor drink but such as cometh from the said priest and brought me by my Lord's foole. So that I have been well nigh starved, and sometimes of a truth should die for lacke of sustenance had not poore women of the country, knowing my Lord's demayne always to his wives, brought me to my great window, in the night, such meat and drink as they had, and gave me for the love of God; for

money have I none wherewith to pay them, nor yet have had of my Lord, these 4 years, save four groats." This ill-conditioned husband was beheaded in 1540 for treasonable connivance at the Lincolnshire rebellion of 1536, for which his wife's father, Lord Hussey, had previously suffered death, as well as for other abominable crimes, and his lady found a second, and let us hope, a more amiable husband in Sir R. Throckmorton. She d. 1571.

The *Chapel* of St. Leonard, on the site of the original parish ch. within the inner court, has been preserved. The windows are Perp. In Grose's time it was half roofless, but was repaired in 1779 and again in 1806. Upon wooden bosses of the porch roof are the family coat and badge of 3 sickles interlaced. The altar-slab is a handsome block of breccia from Draycot near Wells. A quantity of armour, together with a miscellaneous assortment of curiosities—jack-boots, stirrups, spurs, old keys, antique chairs, &c.—has found a resting-place here. A copy of a letter of Oliver Cromwell to his "honnoured friend Mr. Hungerford th' elder," dated July 30, 1652, stolen in 1798, hangs in a frame on the S. wall. There is a northern addition, the wall of which has been painted with the coat-armour of the alliances of the Hungerfords. The monuments are many and curious. (1) Beneath the arch opening into the side chapel are effigies of Sir Thomas Hungerford, the purchaser, d. 1398, and his wife Joan, d. 1412, on an altar-tomb. (2) In the centre of the outer chapel, to the W., an incised slab to a Chantry priest. (3) In the S.E. corner of the same chapel, an altar-tomb to Sir Walter Hungerford, d. 1596, and his son Edward. The inscription is curiously cut, and, on the further side, must be read backwards. (4) An altar-tomb in N.E. corner of side chapel to Sir Edward Hungerford,

2 lower court

d. 1607, and Jane his first wife. (5) In N.W. corner an altar-tomb, standing N. and S., to Mrs. Mary Shaa, sister to Sir Edward Hungerford, d. 1613, with kneeling effigies. (6) In centre, effigies of Sir Edward Hungerford, died 1648, commander of the Wilts forces under the Commonwealth and the besieger of War-dour Castle, and Margaret his wife, d. 1672. Beneath the chapel is the *vault* where six corpses, with that of a baby, repose sheathed in coffins of lead. At the E. end of the chapel a house for the Chantry priest, built by Walter Lord Hungerford, 1430, still remains.

The *Parish Ch.* (St. Leonard's) was built by Walter Lord Hungerford, and consecrated on the day of its patron saint, Nov. 6, 1443. It is a plain Perp. edifice with a tower at W. end terminated with a short spire. Over the S. door is a stone, probably brought from the older ch., bearing the inscription,

Muniat hoc templum cruce glorificans mi-
crocosmum,
Quæ genuit Christum miseris prece fiat
asylum;

The windows of the chancel contain some remains of stained glass.

The present *Farleigh House* is an old manor-house refronted and modernized.]

[2 m. from Farleigh, 1 m. from Freshford Station, by a pretty foot-path, are the ruins of the Carthusian Priory of *Hinton Charterhouse*, founded 1232 by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, in pursuance of the will of her deceased husband, William Longespée.

The remains consist chiefly of 2 very picturesque detached groups of buildings, in the E.E. style, originally connected by a cloister. One group of buildings contains the *Chapter House*, of 3 vaulted bays, lighted by a triplet at the end, and lancets

in the side walls. It contains a trefoiled piscina with a fluted basin. Above the western part of this building are 2 bays of quadripartite vaulting rising from wall shafts on lovely corbels. To the N. of the Chapter-house, between it and the *Ch.*, is a 2-storied building, the lower vaulted in 4 bays, on octagon piers, with a large fireplace in the western wall. The only fragment of the *Ch.* is a portion of the S. wall exhibiting a trefoiled piscina, and a noble clustered E.E. vaulted shaft. On the S. wall are the hook corbels of the cloister. The other group contains the vaulted *Refectory*, with the usual 3 doors at the E. end, and a very curious square serving-hatch at the S.W. angle, opening into the kitchen. Around are numerous old elms, and under the adjoining road an archway, from which there is a pretty path to Freshford. Among the monks of Hinton in the early part of reign of Henry VIII. was Nicholas Hopkins, the "ghostly father" of Edward, the magnificent but weakly credulous Duke of Buckingham, the last of the noble line of Stafford, who by his false forged prophecies, promising Buckingham on the faith of a revelation of God "that he should be a king and the progenitor of a line of kings," lured his unfortunate patron to destruction, May 1521.

Hinton House (Hon. Mrs. Jones) was a manor-house of the Hungerfords, built out of the ruins of the abbey.]

Returning to the rly. From Trowbridge we continue up the valley of the Biss, with the grounds of Rood Ashton and Heywood House to the l., and passing *North Bradley*, rt., reach

109½ WESTBURY Stat. (*Inns*: Lopes Arms, White Lion, Crown. Pop. of Parl. borough, 6014), where a line branches on the l. to Salisbury and Southampton. An ancient town,

straggling and ill-built, once busy in the cloth manufacture, which is now giving place to that of iron, a fine vein having been discovered at *Ham*, close to the station, where several large blast-furnaces have been set up. It is situated on the small stream of the Biss at the foot of the chalk hills, of which *Westbury Down* rises to the height of 775 ft. above the sea. It now returns one member, formerly two. In 1766 it was represented by Sir William Blackstone, the lawyer. *Bryan Edwards*, the historian of the West Indies, was born in the vicinity of Westbury, at *Charlcott*, formerly the manor-house of the Mauduits, and purchased by his father. Westbury belonged to the family of Pavely, from whom it passed by marriage, 1361, to the St. Loes, and then to the Chedyoks. The borough subsequently belonged to the Earl of Abingdon, who sold it, 1810, to Sir Massey Manasseh Lopes for 6500*l.* Beyond the *Ch.* it contains little to interest the traveller, but it is within reach of *Longleat*, of the camps of *Scratchbury* and *Battlesbury* above Warminster, of the camp and White Horse at *Bratton*, and of the church of *Edington*.

The *Church* (All Saints) is a fine building standing among large chestnuts, originally Norman, but Perpendicularized something after Wykeham's fashion at Winchester. It is cruciform with a central tower, which, like that of Bath Abbey, is not square. The masonry throughout is excellent. At the W. door is a groined porch. The nave is very stately, the aisles narrow, crossed with transverse stone arches with interpenetrating mouldings; the chancel is low. The E. and W. windows are each of 7 lights, and are filled with rich modern stained glass. A groined chapel stands to W. of the N. transept. In the S. transept is a Corinthian monument with effigies

of Sir James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, and his wife—

"That good Earl, once President
Of England's Council and her Treasury."
Milton's Sonnets.

Born at Teffont, his father having served Henry VIII. at the siege of Boulogne with his own men, he became successively Lord Chief Justice, Lord Treasurer, and President of the Council in 1629, and was created Baron Ley, of Ley in Devon, by James I., and Earl of Marlborough by Charles I. To the S. of the chancel is the Willoughby de Broke chapel, temp. Henry VI., to the N. that of the Mauduits. Westbury was chosen for a title by Sir Richard Bethell, Lord High Chancellor (of a Bradford-on-Avon family) when raised to the peerage, 1861.

At *Westbury Leigh*, a moated site called the *Palace Garden* is pointed out by tradition as the residence of one of our Anglo-Saxon kings; and in a field, known as the *Ham*, in the vicinity of the railway stat., many remains of Roman pottery and coins have been discovered. *Brook*, 2 m. N.W., was the seat of the Pavelys, lords of Westbury at a later period. It derived its name from a small stream which runs past it towards the Avon; and "in its turn," says Camden, "Brook gave the title of Baron to Robert Willoughby, who, on account of his descent from the Pavelys by the family of Cheney, was advanced to it by King Henry VII., with whom he was a special favourite." To this may be added that it also gave title to the Earls of Brooke and Warwick, by descent through Elizabeth, eldest daughter and coheir of Lord Willoughby de Broke the 2nd baron, and wife of Sir Fulke Greville.

[*Bratton Castle*, about 3 m. E., crowns a promontory of the chalk

down (the Ordnance Stat. is 754 ft. above the sea-level), cut off from the main chain by a rampart and ditch. It is an irregularly shaped camp of 23 acres, formed in part by a double rampart, in some places 36 ft. high. Camden, Gibson, Gough, and Hoare consider Bratton camp to have been the entrenchment to which Guthrum the Dane retired after his decisive defeat by Alfred in the *battle of Ethandune*, in 878, which is placed by them at the village of *Edington*, 1 m. W.; and there is a tradition that the Danes were posted in the little valley, thence called *Dane Leys*, situated under the hill. The locality of this battle is much disputed, and is placed by Bp. Clifford at Edington on the N. side of Polden Hill (Rte. 27). Below the camp, on the S. slope of the hill, is the figure of a colossal *White Horse*, formed by removing the turf: originally a very rude design, and perhaps a memorial of Alfred's victory, but held by others to be of much later date, and certainly restored in 1778. Its dimensions are 175 ft. from head to tail, 107 ft. high at shoulder, the eye is 25 ft. in circumference.

Bratton Church, sheltering close under the slope of the down, is Perp., with an E. E. chancel.

Edington, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Westbury Station, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Bratton Castle, should be visited by every archæologist for the sake of the beautiful *Ch.* erected by Bishop Edington, a native of the place, the predecessor of William of Wykeham in the see of Winchester, and the originator of the great work of the restoration of the cathedral completed by him. It is a most valuable example of the transition from the Decorated to the Perpendicular style. The first stone was laid in 1352 and it was dedicated in 1361. In 1347, Bp. Edington founded a college here for a dean and 12 prebendaries, which, at the

request of the Black Prince, was converted into a monastery of the order of Bonhommes, of which this priory and that of Ashridge in Bucks were the only seats in England.

In Jack Cade's rebellion, 1449, Ayscough Bishop of Salisbury was murdered by a body of Wiltshire peasantry, who dragged him from the altar of this church, and stoned him to death on the neighbouring hill, on the plea that he was always absent with the king, Henry VI., as his confessor, and kept no hospitality in his diocese. His head was struck off and his bloodstained vestments divided among his murderers.

The *Ch.*, surrounded by a rich fringe of gigantic elms and walnuts, challenges attention by its almost cathedral proportions and rich outline. It is cruciform with a central tower on 4 noble arches, with the Pavely cross flory in the belfry window, and a lofty S. porch well groined with a parvise over. The nave is 75 ft. long, and has 6 lofty arches. The windows deserve special notice as the forerunners of Perpendicular tracery. The W. front is singularly noble; in the window the Perp. style is fully established. In the S. transept is an anonymous effigy of an ecclesiastic under a richly coloured canopy, supposed from the rebus to be that of John Bayntun; and in the chancel are canopies of rich work between the windows, two of which contain their original statues though headless. There is a monument to Sir Edward Lewys, gentleman of the Privy Chamber to Charles I., and his lady Anne, daughter of the Earl of Dorset and widow of Lord Beauchamp, singularly rich and well carved, with a fine alabaster effigy, 1630. The Cheney monument on the S. of the nave, an altar-tomb under a canopy bearing the Pavely and Cheney arms, forms a small chantry chapel. The monument to Sir Simon Taylor is by Chantrey.

The roofs are plastered in imitation of Gothic work, the date 1658 is on that of the N. aisle. The consecration crosses are to be seen in the N. aisle, and the E. wall both inside and outside. The College buildings stood to the N. of the ch., as is shown by the height of the sills of the windows from the ground. To the N.W. of the ch. is a very picturesque embattled house, with irregular projections. The buttressed wall of the orchard deserves notice, and the site of the monastic fish-ponds. A yew-tree, 21 ft. in girth, stands to the E. of the ch.

At the time of the Dissolution the priory was granted to Lord Seymour of Sudeley, the Protector's brother. On his fall it was re-granted to William Poulett, first Marquis of Winchester, then Lord Treasurer, from whom it passed to the Dukes of Bolton. It is now the property of S. Watson Taylor, Esq.

An avenue of noble elms leads from Edington to the adjacent village of Tinhead.

About 7 m. E. of Westbury is the park of *Earl Stoke* or *Stoke Comitis*, so called from having belonged to Edward d'Evreux, Earl of Sarum, temp. William I. The house, a fine classical structure, (Simon Watson Taylor, Esq.) was built, 1788, by Joshua Smith, M.P. for Devizes. The *Ch.* was built from Mr. Street's designs, 1880. The situation and grounds are very beautiful. 1 m. N., *Heywood House*, Sir Henry Lopes, built in the reign of James I. by Lord Ley, afterwards Earl of Marlborough, and rebuilt by its late owner. *Leighton and Charlcott*, the residences of J. L. Phipps, Esq., and his nephew, C. Phipps, Esq., are in this neighbourhood; and 6 m. S., the splendid park and mansion of Longleat (Marquis of Bath) (Rte. 11) shown on Wednesdays and Fridays.

At Westbury the rly. bends west-

ward, and at 112 m. passes rt. Standerwick Court, and 2 m. N.W., Beckington, at 113 $\frac{3}{4}$ m., Berkley, and reaches, 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Frome Station* (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 5.

HUNGERFORD TO BATH. [LITTLECOTE, RAMSBURY] BY GREAT BEDWYN, SAVERNAKE, PEWSEY [VALLEY OF THE AVON TO AMESBURY], TO DEVIZES, BRADFORD, FRESHFORD, VALLEY OF CLAVERTON.

(*Great Western Railway.*)

61 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Hungerford Stat.* (Inns: Bear; Bell; Three Swans). (*Hdbk. for Berks.*), thence excursions may be made to Littlecote, 4 m., *Savernake Forest* and *Tottenham House*.

S. of Hungerford, at the junction of the 3 counties of Wilts, Hants, and Berks, rises *Inkpen Beacon*, the loftiest chalk down in England, 1011 ft. above the sea, commanding a wide and beautiful prospect. To the N.W. it overlooks *Savernake Forest*, to the S.E. the woods of *Highclere* (Ld. Carnarvon). (*Hdbk. for Hants.*) The village of *Swallowfield* stands in the 3 counties.

4 m. from Hungerford is *Littlecote*, "renowned not more on account of the venerable architecture and furniture, than on account of a horrible and mysterious crime perpetrated there in the days of the Tudors"—*Macaulay*—the seat of the Pophams (shown when the family is away), situated in its well-wooded but gloomy and neglected park in the valley of the Kennet. It is a remarkable specimen of an almost unaltered mansion of the 16th century, built by the Darells, and sold by the

last of that family to Judge Popham in the reign of Elizabeth. The great hall is hung with armour, cross-bows, &c., and the buff jerkins and steel caps of Cromwell's Ironsides; the gallery, which is upwards of 100 ft. long, with family portraits, including those of Judge Popham and Nell Gwyn. In one room the visitor is shown the chair of Judge Popham, and the finger-stocks, a curious instrument of torture for punishing servants, and in another a piece of needlework representing a Roman pavement found in the park. Attached to this old house is the story told in a note to Scott's '*Rokeby*.' A midwife was fetched out of Berkshire, at dead of night, to deliver a woman, with a promise of high pay, but on condition that she should be blindfolded. After a rough ride on horseback behind the messenger, she arrived at a house, and was conducted up-stairs, where she performed her duties to the lady; but no sooner were these ended than a man of ferocious aspect, seizing the new-born infant, threw it on the back of the fire that was blazing on the hearth, and destroyed it. The woman returned to her home, and long brooded in secret over her singular adventure; but the crime to which she had been privy at length produced its fruit. Her mind grew ill at ease; so, disregarding the bribe which she had received, she went to a magistrate, and confessed to him all that she knew. She had reasons for believing that she could identify the house. On ascending the stairs she had counted the number of steps, and from the bedside she had brought away a piece of the curtain.

This story has been also preserved, with some slight variations, by Aubrey and others, and the tradition of the neighbourhood has for 200 years invariably connected it with Littlecote House, and William Darell, commonly called "*Wild Darell*," then its proprietor. It has also been

currently handed down that Darell was tried for his life, escaped by bribing the officers of the law, and especially Sir John Popham, by the gift to him of the estate: that afterwards, by a judgment of Heaven, he broke his neck over a stile out hunting, which stile still bears his name, and that the spectre of the wild huntsman and his hounds has occasionally terrified the natives.

An attempt was made a few years ago to disprove the whole story, which brought to light the actual statement in writing by the magistrate, Mr. Bridges, of Great Shefford, in Berks (about 7 miles off), who took down the deposition of the midwife on her death-bed. Her name was Mrs. Barnes, of Shefford. She does not say that she was blindfolded, but that, having been decoyed by a fictitious message pretending to come from Lady Knyvett, of Charlton House, she found herself, after being on horseback several hours in the night, at another house, and the lady she had to attend to was masked. She does not say what house this was, and seems not to have known. Her deposition gives the fullest particulars of the atrocity committed, but fails to identify Littlecote as the house, and Will. Darell as the gentleman. The subsequent discovery, however, at Longleat, by the Rev. Canon Jackson, of Leigh Delamere, of an original letter dated 2nd January, 1578, has set the matter at rest. Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, had in his establishment a Mr. Bonham, whose sister was the mistress of W. Darell, and living at Littlecote. This letter is from Sir H. Knyvett, of Charlton, to Sir John Thynne, desiring "that Mr. Bonham will inquire of his sister touching her usage at Will. Darell's, the birth of her children, how many there were, and what became of them: for that the report of the murder of one of them was increasing foully, and would touch Will. Darell to the

quick." How Darell escaped does not appear; but it is quite certain that in 1586 he sold the reversion of his Littlecote estate to Sir John Popham; that upon Darell's death, in 1589, Sir John took possession of it, and was made a judge in 1592. Further, that Darell was certainly a spendthrift, and in various serious difficulties from time to time; and that in 1583 he made a very suspicious offer of a bribe of 5000*l.* to Lord Chancellor Bromley, to be "his good friend."

Wm. III., on his progress from Salisbury to London, after the conference with James's commissioners at Hungerford, Dec. 8, 1688, retired to Littlecote, where the following day, Sunday, Dec. 9, the Commissioners dined. "A splendid assemblage had been invited to meet them. The old hall was crowded with peers and generals. Halifax seized the opportunity, with his dexterous diplomacy, of extracting from Burnet all that he knew and thought. 'Do you wish to get the king into your power?' said Halifax. 'Not at all,' was Burnet's reply, 'we would not do the least harm to his person.' 'And if he was to go away?' 'There is nothing so much to be wished.'"—*Macaulay.*

At Littlecote in 1730 one of the largest Roman pavements ever discovered in England was laid bare, and unfortunately speedily destroyed. It represented, among other devices, Apollo in the centre, and female figures riding on animals emblematic of the four seasons.

Adjoining Littlecote, in the parish of Chilton Foliot, is *Chilton House*, and the quiet town of

Ramsbury, originally Ravensburg, A.-S. Hvaefensbyrig, which was a seat of the bishops of Wiltshire for more than 100 years, from Bp. Ethelstan, 909 A.D., when the see of Ramsbury was separated from that of Winchester, to the Lotharingian Bp. Herman, by whom (1058

A.D.) Ramsbury was united to Sherborne, on the death of Bp. Elfwald, and the united see was transferred to Old Sarum 1075. The quiet and tidy village shows small signs of its former ecclesiastical importance.

The *Church* is large, having a nave and aisles of great width and a long chancel, but is of no great beauty, the arcades very irregular and inelegant. The tower is low and heavy, with unusually large buttresses. The roof of the nave is a good piece of oak-work. It contains a fine canopied 15th-century tomb, and a slab with Norman-French inscription, to William de St. John, parson of Ramsbury c. 1322, and stately monumental effigies of the Joneses, from the Attorney-General of Charles II.'s time, who purchased the estate, to the last male possessor. North of the chancel, blocked off from the ch., is the rich but neglected "Darrel's Aisle," containing three tombs of that family. *Ramsbury Manor* belongs to Sir Robert Burdett, Bart., and here the celebrated Sir Francis Burdett lies buried. The manor passed by marriage to the Burdetts from the Jones's. The house was designed by Webb, the son-in-law of Inigo Jones. It contains oak-panelled rooms, decorated with carvings of the school of Gibbons, family portraits, and a good full-length of Charles II. The park is a fine one, and the river Kennet flows through it, forming an artificial lake abounding in trout, in which *Tom D'Urfey* was invited every year to fish. This celebrated wit is said to have "angled for a trout the best of any man in England." *Aldbourn*, N.E. of Ramsbury, gave name to a *Chase*, a favourite hunting-ground of King John, and in 1643 the scene of the defeat of the Earl of Essex by the King and Prince Rupert, who drove the Parliamentary general as far as Hungerford. In 1815, in making a road, some 60 skeletons, lying pell-mell, were disinterred, a

ghastly memorial of that day's slaughter.

Aldbourn Church is a fine building with transeptal chapels, nearly wholly Perp., with a grand and beautiful tower, and Norm. S. doorway, and Trans.-Norman arcade with pointed arches. There is one E.E. lancet in the chancel, but all the other windows are Perp.

At *Froxfield*, rt., is the *Somerset Hospital*, founded in 1686 by Sarah Duchess of Somerset, affording an asylum to 50 widows of clergymen and laymen.

65 m. *Little Bedwyn*. The chapel of St. Michael deserves a visit. The nave is Trans.-Norm., with round arches on N., and pointed on S., the rest, Perp., with a beautiful roof to W. aisle. The tower and spire are admirably proportioned.

1 m. N. the encampment of

Chisbury, an oval camp, taking its name from Cissa the son of Ælla, of 15 acres, and one of the finest specimens of British castrametation in the county. It is situated on the Wansdyke, and girt by a rampart 45 ft. in height, which in some places is double and in others triple. Within the enclosure is a chapel (St. Martin's) of the Decorated style, now used as a barn.

66 *Great Bedwyn Stat.*

Great Bedwyn, now, as in the time of Leland, "but a poore thing to syght," but under Saxon rule an important place, the residence of Cissa, ealdorman of Berks and Wiltshire. In 675 it was the scene of an engagement between the kings of Wessex and Mercia, in which the latter was defeated. Bedwyn was a Parliamentary borough, returning 2 members till the first Reform Act. Among its representatives were Selden, the antiquary, and Sir Vicary Gibbs. It is still a market town.

The flint-built *Ch.*, restored 1854, is very interesting. It is cruciform, with a low central tower; the chan-

cel E.E.; the transepts Dec. with rich flamboyant windows, built by Sir Adam de Stokke (d. 1312), who lies in the S. transept in an arched recess containing a cross-legged effigy in chain mail. Another recess contains a Purbeck slab, with an incised cross to Sir Roger de Stokke. The nave arcade is Trans.-Norman, with curiously carved capitals, all different. The interior of the chancel is very imposing. There are fine Dec. piscinas there and in the Transept. The encaustic tiles deserve examination. In the chancel is a fine altar-tomb, with an effigy in full armour, to Sir John Seymour of Wolf Hall (father of Queen Jane Seymour and the Lord Protector Somerset), brought hither in 1590, from Easton Priory, by his grandson Edward, Earl of Hertford. There is also a monument to Frances, daughter of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, and widow of William, 2nd Duke of Somerset; and a brass memorial to John Seymour, eldest son of Sir John. Great Bedwyn was the birthplace of *Thomas Willis*, 1621, the anatomist, and founder of a philosophical society at Oxford, from which arose the Royal Society of London. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. About 1 m. S. of this village is the height of *Castle Hill*, so called from an entrenchment, in which have been found large quantities of tesserae, bricks, and other evidences of Roman habitation.

68 m. 1 m. l. is *East Grafton* (Rte. 3, p. 44).

69 m. Close to the rly. on l. are the small remains of *Wulfall*, the Ulfela of Domesday, commonly but wrongly changed into *Wolfhall*, which belonged in early times to the Esturmies, wardens of Savernake Forest, whose heiress Maud brought it to the Seymours, temp. Hen. VI. Sir John Seymour, father of Lady Jane Seymour, queen of Henry VIII. and mother of Edward VI., lived here. The old house was partly destroyed

circa 1662, and its materials used in building the first Tottenham House, and nothing now remains but the "Laundry," a picturesque building with tall chimneys at the foot of the hill. Adjoining the farmhouse is an ancient barn, which traditionally was the scene of a bridal feast on the king's marriage with Jane Seymour in 1536, on the day after the execution of the unfortunate Anne Boleyn. In Aug. 1539, the royal widower with his court came to Wulfall on a visit to Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford, his brother-in-law, afterwards Lord Protector. He was again there in 1543. In proceeding from Wulfall to Tottenham the traveller obtains a good view of the steep side of Martensell Hill, nearly 1000 ft. high.

69 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Savernake Station*, where is a neat little hotel built by the Marquis of Ailesbury (branch line rt. by Marlborough to Swindon; l. to Ludgershall and Andover, Rte. 3. For Savernake Forest and Tottenham Park see same Rte.).

The rly. continues from Savernake Stat. up the valley of the Avon between the escarpment of Marlborough Downs N., and Salisbury Plain S., passing at

70 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Burbage Stat.*, a picturesque straggling village. The church, rebuilt 1854 excepting the tower, contains a memorial window to Bp. Denison, and another to 4 soldiers, natives of this parish, who fell in the Crimea. The S. aisle was added in 1876 in memory of Archdeacon Stanton. Enormous sycamores shelter the church on the S.W.

72 m. the flint and stone *Ch.* and village of *Wootton Rivers* on the other side of the river.

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. is the village of *Easton*, on the round chalkhill above which is a circular entrenchment and British village. To the S. are also Milton Hill with a group of barrows, and Pewsey Downs on which are traces of British villages.

75 m. *Pewsey Stat.* (*Inns*: Phoenix,

Royal Oak), a small town pleasantly situated on the Avon, between which and Savernake the huge mass of Martensell Hill rises like a wall to the rt. The *Ch.* is a fine and interesting building, with an arcade of massive sq. piers and plain un moulded arches, but much of the work is of the 13th cent. The oblong tower is Perp., and groined within. The sedilia, piscina and font all deserve notice. 2 m. N.W. is the pretty village of *Wilcot*.

The chalk range is here divided by the *Vale of Pewsey*, which separates the Marlborough Downs from Salisbury Plain. *Martensell* and *St. Ann's* are elevated points on the steep escarpment, commanding a most extensive prospect, including Salisbury Plain and the Forest of Savernake.

Martensell is situated about 3 m. S. from Marlborough. The name is a corruption of the A.-S. "Mærthorn" "the boundary thorn," and has nothing to do with St. Martin. It is a fine bold hill, descending sheer on the E., and throwing out a spur to the S.W. The ditch and rampart of a Celtic camp gird the summit, enclosing an area of 31 acres, and commanding a distant view of the entrenched heights of Sidbury, Clearbury, Bratton, and Cley Hill, of Salisbury Spire, and Alfred's Tower; on the N.E. slope of the hill, banks and hollows indicate the site of a British village. If we proceed W. from Martensell along this ridge of high land, we shall reach in succession *Hewish Hill*, remarkable for extensive vestiges of a British village; *Knap Hill*, crowned by an earthwork of high antiquity enclosing 2 tumuli, with a third outside it; *Walker's Hill*, above Alton Priors, conspicuous by its long barrow; and beyond Walker Hill, 5 m. W. of Martensell, *St. Ann's*, the highest point of the Marlborough Downs, and known throughout Wilts and the neighbouring counties as the site of *Tan Hill Fair* (i.e. St. Ann's Hill,

cf. *Tooley St.*, Southwark, from St. Olaf), held annually for pleasure and business on the 6th of Aug. (St. Anne's Day, old style). On the projecting buttress of St. Ann's, S. rests the elliptical camp of *Rybury*, formed by a single bank and ditch, and evidently the work of a primitive people. On his march northwards, before the battle of Naseby, Lord Goring appointed Tan Hill as the rendezvous for the Royalist forces, whence he marched to Marlborough. Along this northern verge of the hill runs that interesting relic of antiquity, the *Wansdyke*, or Wodens dike,

"For a mighty mound sith long he did remain,

Betwixt the Mercians rule and the West Saxon reign."—*Drayton*.

seen in its pristine state on the downs between Savernake Forest (W. of Martensell) and Heddington. It is generally considered to have been constructed by the Belgæ, as they gradually expelled the British tribes before them, and like the other ditches of the same origin, the Old Ditch N. of Amesbury, and Bokerly Ditch S. of Salisbury, has the fosse to the N. Dr. Stukeley mentions 4 great ditches as marking the advance of this people from the S. The 1st extended through Dorsetshire from Shaftesbury to Wimborne; the 2nd, called the Bokerly Ditch, skirted the N. side of Cranbourne Chase (these two Dr. Guest, the first authority on such points, combines in one as parts of one continuous boundary); the 3rd traversed Salisbury Plain, about 2 m. N. of Wilton (Dr. Guest denies this the character of a Belgic earthwork at all); the 4th was the Wansdyke, which at this day may be traced through Wiltshire for 19 m., including gaps. This magnificent earthwork extended from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Severn, and was the last frontier of the Belgic province, and Dr. Guest does not forbid

the belief that it may have been Divitiacus who here fixed the limits of the Belgic dominion. It consists of a huge rampart and ditch, the ditch on the northern side, and runs in a waved line along the summit of the hills, which being unenclosed and solitary contribute much to the effect of this rude bulwark of a race so long passed away. "Offa's Dyke in Wales and the Wansdyke in England," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "are the most conspicuous examples of the ancient territorial boundaries."

A person walking from Marlborough to Devizes can pursue a delightful route along this dyke. He will proceed by the Calne road as far as Fyfield (some 2 m.), there turn to the l. (by the Fighting Cocks) to the churchless village of *Lockeridge*, situated in a bottom among masses of sandstone, and thence direct his way to the summit of the downs. 4 m. from Lockeridge he will reach the dyke, about 1 m. E. of St. Anne's Hill, from which a valley running N.E. contains 2 rows of sarsen stones of large size, standing 3 or 4 feet out of the ground. In the same valley, more to the S., are the remains of a cistvaen, with the larger chamber, and passage traceable; another monument of the same kind is on the top of the hill to the S.E. These are locally known as the *Hares' Holes*. From this point he can follow the dyke N.W. unchecked by hedge or other impediment, to *Shepherd's Shore*, a lone house formerly an inn, on the Devizes and Marlborough road, or farther to Morgan's Hill, the heights N. of *Roundway Down*, the scene of the rout of Waller in 1643. He will then quit it and turn S. over Roundway to Devizes; or if bound for Calne, he may follow the Wansdyke till it ends near a fir-wood, where it is crossed by a white chalk road, by turning down which, to the rt. (N.) he can descend by *Blackland* to Calne. Beyond this point, W., the dyke is destroyed for a long distance, but

reappears at Englishcombe above Bath.

[A very agreeable détour may be made from Pewsey, down the valley of the Avon to *Amesbury* (Rte. 8), 16 m. The road is good, and the scenery, though possessing no striking features, of a quiet English beauty. The valley now expands to a dell, now narrows to a winding glen. The road runs for a considerable distance by the side of the stream; now descending to its very edge; now ascending halfway to the summit of the treeless down, and diversified with a picturesque village and ch. at almost every mile.

Leaving Pewsey and skirting the rounded sides of Pewsey Down we reach 2 m. *Manningford Abbots* and *Manningford Braose*. The Ch. of the latter (probably of Saxon date) has an apse, and contains a tablet to Mary, wife of Edward Nicholas, and d. of Thomas Lane of Bentley, Staffordshire, who, with her elder sister Jane, aided Charles II.'s escape after the battle of Worcester. Crossing the Avon at Woodbridge we reach in 2 m. *Rushall*, a picturesque spot at the foot of the downs, where once stood a splendid mansion of the Poores, now pulled down. The Ch. has a Norman tower, and other portions of that style. *Rushall Park* is the property of Lord Normanton. The land has been divided into farms, but much fine timber remains.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. up the Avon is *Charlton*. The Ch. is of flint and stone, with some good screen-work, and a mural brass. Here was born Stephen Duck, "the thrasher," whose poetry having recommended him to the notice of Q. Caroline, he entered holy orders, and became preacher at Kew and Rector of Byfleet. He drowned himself in melancholy madness at Reading, 1750, bequeathing the rent of a small piece of land to be expended in an annual dinner for threshers.

Rushall is followed by *Upavon*, now a small village, but a market-town

in the time of Edward II.'s favourite, DeSpencer, to whom it belonged. The once celebrated demagogue "Orator Hunt" was born 1773 at Weddington Farm, in this parish. The Ch. is large, E. E., with a square Norman tower. This was once the seat of a cell of the Abbey of Fontanelle in Normandy, afterwards granted by Henry VI. to that of Iyychurch. On the top of the hill 2 m. W. is

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce." In the centre is a circle.

2 m. brings us to *Chisenbury de la Folie*, a hamlet in Enford parish. Chisenbury Priors, now the property of Miss Chafyn Grove, was the residence of Henry Grove, executed at Exeter, 1655, for an attempted rising in favour of Charles II. 1 m. E. is *Chisenbury Camp* or *Trendle* (A.-S. circle), a circular work formed by a bank 16 ft. high. Some antiquaries have thought it was a British amphitheatre.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m., W. by S., distant, the small camp of *Lidbury*, girt by a rampart 40 ft. high. A bank and ditch lead from it to the site of a British village in the valley. The *Twin Barrows* are 1 m. to the S.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. further down the Avon is the village of *Enford* (Avonford), one of the meets of the late Mr. Assheton Smith's hounds. The Ch. was one of the finest in the diocese, with a lofty spire, which was struck by lightning in 1817, and fell, crushing the ch. The whole has been rebuilt. The country round is studded with numerous barrows.

1 m. S. is *Fittleton*, where is a good small Ch. with a spire, containing a singular punning brass inscription to the Jays. The road here crosses the river to *Nether Avon*, taken by

Henry III. from Gilbert Basset for adhering to R. Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, and given to Peter de Maulay, causing a great popular outcry. The *Ch.* retains traces of its Norman structure in the chancel and belfry arches and W. doorway. This was for 2 years the curacy of *Sydney Smith*, who is said to have here undergone the most imminent risk of starvation, both mental and bodily. "Once a-week," writes Lady Holland, "a butcher's cart came over from Salisbury; it was then only that he could obtain any meat, and he often dined on a mess of potatoes sprinkled with a little ketchup. Too poor to command books, his only resource was the squire, and his only relaxation long walks over these interminable plains, in one of which he narrowly escaped being buried in a snow-drift."

1 m. lower down on the opposite bank stands *Figheldean*. The *Church*, prettily surrounded with trees, is more considerable than most of its neighbours, which are mostly small flint buildings, and has been well restored. It has Norman portions, and contains crossed-legged effigies, probably of the Hussey family, and in the chancel some monuments of the Poores.

1 m. further brings us to *Milston*, a group of very pretty cottages where the river makes a loop. This manor was forfeited by John Lord de Zouch, for having sided with Richard III., and granted by Henry VII. to his uncle Jasper, Duke of Bedford, son of Owen Tudor and Queen Katharine. The *Church* is small, but not without interest. The old rectory in which the celebrated Joseph Addison was born, May 1, 1672, has been pulled down, and a new house erected a few yards from the former site. Addison's father, Lancelot Addison, was made rector of the parish on the loss of his chaplaincy at Tangier.

On the opposite side of the Avon is *Durrington*, where the *Long Walls*

are considered by Sir R. C. Hoare to mark a British village. The *Ch.* is fair, of flint and stone, and contains an old pulpit and seats of oak. Again crossing the stream we come $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Bulford*, with its pretty church, and is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to Amesbury (Rte. 8).]

Returning to the main route we reach

$78\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Woodborough Stat.* This is an increasing place with a handsome new church. 2 m. N., immediately under Walker Hill, "nestling beneath the downs," lie the little villages of *Alton Barnes*, or *Berners*, and *Alton Priors*. The former manor was bought by William of Wykeham, and bestowed on his foundation of New College. Among its rectors may be named the Rev. W. Crowe, 1812–29 (author of 'Lewesdon Hill' and other poems, and for many years public orator at Oxford, in which office he introduced the Allied Sovereigns on their visit in 1814), and Augustus W. Hare, author of 'Sermons to a Country Congregation,' preached in these churches, and with his brother Archdeacon Julius C. Hare, of the 'Guesses at Truth.' On the S.W. slope of the chalk down is a white horse, cut in 1812 at the expense of Mr. Pile, of the Manor Farm, which may be seen from Old Sarum. Its dimensions are:—height 180 feet, length 165 feet, circumference of eye 12 feet, superficial area 700 yards.

80 m. rt. is *Beechingstoke*, with a small Dec. *Ch.*, 1 m. S. of which is *Marden*. The *Ch.* has a fine Norman chancel arch, and S. door and pinnacled west tower. On Wivelisford Hill, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further S., is *Broadway Camp*. The *Ridgeway* runs along the crest of the hill, dotted with barrows on each side. From Broadway a British *trackway* struck N. over the vale by Broad Street and Honey Street, and climbed the Marlborough Downs between Walker Hill and Knap Hill, crossing the

Wansdyke at a point where some large sarsen stones are still standing.

The old cottages in this neighbourhood, with their long roofs of thatch and frames of woodwork, are exceedingly picturesque.

Proceeding on our route

1 m. W. *Stanton Fitzwarren Church*, has a good chancel arch, and font with bas-relief, and Norman porch.

Stanton House (Hon. H. W. Ellis Agar) stands in fine park with ornamental water.

1 m. further W. is *All Cannings*, with its fine cruciform *Church*, with a square Perp. tower rising at the intersection. There is a S. chantry chapel, with a rich battlement bearing the arms of Beauchamp and St. Amand, probably built by Sir J. Baynton. The very beautiful chancel was built in 1867 from the designs of T. H. Wyatt, by the rector, the Rev. J. A. Methuen, and his sons, "as a memorial of a happy home." The *Manor House* is now a farmhouse, and thoroughly modernized, but some few moulded timbers may belong to the 14th century, when licenses of crenellation were issued to the Bishop of Salisbury. Coleridge was a visitor of the Rev. T. A. Methuen, in 1817. 2 m. S.W., nearer the rly., is the small but very interesting Dec. church of *Etchilhampton* (pronounced *Ashelton*), with a Norm. font, and an altar-tomb, the face bearing 12 small figures, men and female, carved in relief, bearing the effigies of a knight and his lady, c. 1400, perhaps one of the family of Malwyn, the lords of the manor.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. is *Bishops Cannings* (more conveniently visited from Devizes, 3 m.), with its beautiful cruciform E.E. *Church*, one of the most interesting churches in the county. It has a central tower of 2 stories, and stone spire. The roof, aisles, and clerestory of nave are Perp. additions. The east, west, and transept windows are fine E.E. triplets. The

nave is of 4 bays, with low, thick columns. The S. porch is vaulted, with a Dec. doorway. The chancel is vaulted. The *Ernle* chantry chapel attached to S. transept, dedicated to "Our Lady of the Bower," contains a large monument to Michael Ernle, d. 1571. The E. window and others filled with glass by Wailes. In N. transept is an almost unique piece of furniture, a very singular moveable chair, still called, for want of a better name, a "confessional chair," more probably a "carrel" for meditation. On the back panel is painted a hand outstretched, with inscriptions on the palm and fingers suggestive of repentance. The oldest part of the church is the little sacristy, with priests' room over, at the N.E. corner of the chancel. It once had a bell-turret. The organ was originally given by William Bayley, a native, who sailed round the world with Captain Cook.

In the 17th century, when old Aubrey tells us "the parish would have challenged all England for music, football, and singing," it boasted of a musical vicar, one Geo. Ferraby, who entertained James I. and Anne of Denmark, with a rustic masque on the occasion of their visit to Bath. The king was received at "the Bush, Coatefield," the Queen, in April 1613, at the Wansdyke, when the Vicar, appeared as an old bard, with his scholars "in Shepherd's weeds," who sang a four-part song, composed by himself, "to the great liking and content of the Queen and her company."

$85\frac{1}{2}$ DEVIZES *Stat.* (*Inns*: Bear, Castle. Pop. of Parl. borough, 6645). A market and assize town, a municipal and Parliamentary borough, returning one member. It stands nearly in the centre of the county, of which it may be considered the secondary capital, and the chief town of N. Wilts. It has one of the largest corn markets in the W. of England. The manufacture of cloth, for which it was once famous, ceased to be

carried on in 1828. The Gt. W. Rly. affords land, and the Kennet and Avon Canal water communication both with the E. and W. The canal, commenced in 1794 and completed in 1805 at a great outlay, is carried over the hill to the N.W. of Devizes by a series of 39 locks. Devizes forms a curve on the top of a hill, flattened at top so as to form a table-land of considerable extent and elevation. The town stands 500 feet above the sea, and the situation is cold and exposed, but salubrious.

"At Devizes the escarpment of the greensand is very steep, and is deeply cut into by ravines, two of which so nearly meet at their heads as to leave a peninsular eminence with steep sides attached by a narrow isthmus to the high ground behind. The peninsula was an admirable site for a castle; and on the high ground behind grew up a town in the form of a semicircle, the curve being marked by the line of New Park Street and Bridewell Street."—*Dr. Fitton.*

The main street is wide and airy, and the market-place spacious, and ornamented by the *Cross* erected in 1814 by Lord Sidmouth, as a mark of esteem for the borough of which he had been for 30 years Recorder, and which he had represented in 6 successive Parliaments. But Leland's observation still holds good, "The beauty of the town of Vies is all in one strete," and that "it standeth on a ground somewhat clyvinge," but it is no longer "most occupied by clothiers." As in Fuller's days, "the market is very celebrate, and it is the best and biggest town for trading in the shire." The oldest charter of the town is that of the Empress Maud.

The name of Devizes has been a subject of much discussion among the learned. Till a comparatively recent time it was always known as "*the Devizes*," a corruption of which, "*the Vies*," is not yet quite extinct. Its Latin appellation, *Castrum* or *Villa Divisarum*, or simply *Divisæ*,

and *ad Divisas*, "at the divisions," clearly shows the origin of the name. The only question remaining is what the divisions or boundaries were on which the town was built. Dr. Guest remarks that "Devizes stands in the middle of the Wansdyke, and the probability is that the district, where the Roman road from London to Bath stooped down into Welsh territory (*i.e.* territory occupied by original inhabitants of Britain), was known as *Divisæ*, the borders, and that in the 12th cent., when Devizes was founded by Bishop Roger, it took its name from the district." Canon Jackson, however, informs us (*Wiltshire Collections*) that it has been recently discovered that in the reign of Henry I., when Devizes was founded, the three adjoining manors (*viz.*, Rowde, Cannings, and Potterne) met precisely at the point at which the castle was built. This appears to be the true solution of the problem.

Devizes, which does not appear in Domesday, owes its origin, as we have said, to the castle erected here, temp. Henry I., by his chancellor, the warlike Bishop Roger of Sarum, that great builder of churches and castles. The first prisoner of note it received was the ill-fated Robert, the Conqueror's eldest son. On the outbreak of the struggle between Stephen and Matilda, Roger garrisoned and provisioned the castle for the Empress, which was held by his nephew, the Bishop of Ely. Roger and his other nephew, the Bishop of Lincoln, having fallen into the king's hands, he proceeded with all speed to Devizes, where he imprisoned the prelates, one in a cowshed, the other in a wretched hovel, and threatened worse unless the castle was surrendered. The castle having thus fallen into Stephen's hands he took it from the see of Sarum and made it a royal fortress. During the course of the civil war it was alternately taken and retaken. In 1140 Robert Fitz-

herbert, a mercenary of the Earl of Gloucester, scaled the battlements by ladders made of leather, and, having surprised the sleeping garrison, seized it for Maud. It again fell into the king's power; but the next year, after Stephen's captivity, Count Hervè, who held it for the king, after a long siege by the peasantry who had risen against him, surrendered it to the Empress. After she had been compelled to raise the siege of Winchester (Sept. 14, 1141), Maud took refuge here, whence, according to popular tradition, she was conveyed in a coffin to Gloucester; but she returned in 1142 and fixed her temporary abode in the castle. It was held by John during Richard I.'s absence in Palestine. Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, who was imprisoned here by Henry III., escaped by favour of part of the garrison, and fled for sanctuary to St. John's ch., whence he was dragged by the governor and conveyed back to the castle; but the threat of the Bishop of Salisbury and the dread of excommunication for the violation of sanctuary prevailed, and he was conveyed back to the ch. It was the abode of two royal hostages, sons of Charles de Blois, great-nephews of the King of France in Edward III.'s reign. The castle formed part of the dowry of several of our queens—Philippa, Good Queen Anne, Margaret of Anjou, Katharine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn (who visited Devizes in 1530), and Katharine Howard. It was the occasional residence of Duke Humphrey of Gloucester. The castle was granted by Edward VI. to Lord Seymour of Sudely, and afterwards came to William, Earl of Montgomery.

The Castle stands to the W. of the town, behind the Bear Inn, and is now private property. The walls have almost entirely perished, but the ditch and mound of the keep may still be seen. A path winds up through the trees to a modern castellated house on the summit. The ruins remained in

Leland's time, who speaks of "dyvers goodly toures all goyng to ruine." "Such a piece of castle wall so costly and so strongly was never afore set up by any byshope of England." After this the Castle became a stone quarry for the vicinity, from which Bromham Hall and the lodge at Spy Park were built. The keep was standing in Charles I.'s time, when it was besieged by the Parliament in 1643, and fortified by the King, and after the fall of Bristol stormed and taken by Cromwell, 23rd Sept., 1645, with the loss on his part of five men. He remained here three days, and marched hence to Donnington Castle, near Newbury. The castle was afterwards "slighted," i.e., destroyed by order of Parliament. Stukeley wrote in 1723, "the castle is ignobly mangled and every day destroyed by persons who care not to leave a stone standing, though for a wall to their gardens." Mr. Leach in 1839 brought to light, by excavation, fragments of the walls, the foundations of the keep and a dungeon pit, perhaps Hubert de Burgh's prison. The street known as "*the Brittox*" derives its name from *Bretesque*, i.e. a wooden tower placed on a drawbridge.

After the site of the castle, the most interesting objects in Devizes are its two noble old Churches, both deserving careful attention.

St. John's, near the Castle, is one of the most interesting in the county. It was originally a cruciform Norman church with central tower, erected towards the middle of the 12th century, probably by Bp. Roger. The chancel was the sanctuary of Hubert de Burgh. The nave was rebuilt c. 1450. It is a well-proportioned lofty building. It had originally a wagon roof, unwisely replaced by a collar-beam roof in a recent restoration, when the ch. was lengthened. The N. and S. chapels to the chancel are late Perp. The N. wall of the chancel retains one of the original Norm. windows, traces of

which are also to be seen both externally and internally in the transepts. The string-courses of corbel heads in the old outside walls of the chancel well deserve attention. The massive tower rests like that of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, on 2 semi-circular and 2 pointed arches, the transepts being narrower than the nave. The lantern, now hidden by a ceiling, is ornamented with a rich intersecting arcade. It is reached by a cylindrical turret at the N.W. angle. The chancel, which retains its Norm. vaulting, is of two bays, divided by a transverse arch springing from richly carved capitals. The walls are ornamented by an intersecting arcade. Both the chapels have rich ceilings of oak, and panelled arches and canopied niches. That to the S. may be ascribed to Rich. Beauchamp, of Bromham, Lord St. Amand, temp. Hen. VII. There is a singularly lofty niche capping the apex of the gable. In the church are several monuments to the Suttons and Heathcotes, including one to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Lord Mayor of London, d. 1768.

St. Mary's, in the N.E. skirt of the town, commands a view of Roundway Hill. This was also a Norman church like St. John's, and the chancel is of the original structure, with groining and transversal arch, but much spoilt by Perp. windows. The nave has been rebuilt in Perp. and is a good but plain specimen of the style, with lofty clerestory and elaborately carved roof bearing in the second bay from the E. the name of the founder, "William Smith, qui istam Ecclesiam fieri fecit, 1436." The chancel arch is panelled, and has a fine niche on either side of it. The east gable of the nave, as at the Beauchamp Chapel at St. John's, is surmounted by a lofty niche containing a statue. The tower is of stately proportions. The S. porch is a good specimen of transition, c. 1200; repaired 1612,

St. James's, a chapel of ease to Bishops Cannings, rebuilt in 1834, except the fine pinnaced tower, the upper part of which bears the marks of Waller's cannon-balls, stands at the E. end of the town on the Green.

Devizes contributed martyrs to the persecutions which ushered in the Reformation. Wm. Prior of this town was burnt at Salisbury, 1507. John Bent, of Urchfont, was burnt here, 1533. John Maundrell, of Rowde, after having recanted in Hen. VIII.'s time, and done penance in the market-place here, gained heart, and in 1556 was burnt with two friends between Salisbury and Wilton.

The *Town Hall*, built by Baldwin of Bath, 1808, with a segmental Ionic portico, contains an Assembly Room, Council Chamber, &c., with a bust of Lord Sidmouth, and portraits of George III. and his queen in their coronation robes, after Reynolds. The old *Town Hall*, a stately building with a pedimental Ionic front, now Messrs. Cunningham's wine offices, was erected in the last century as a supplementary Guild Hall. At the S.E. corner of the market-place is the *Market House*, with a clock tower, opened in 1835. The *County Assize Court*, erected 1835 by T. H. Wyatt, has a pedimental portico of 4 Ionic columns. The Spring Assizes, transferred from Salisbury, were first held here in August, 1835.

The *Corn Exchange* of the Corinthian order (*arch. Hill*, of Leeds), is 142 ft. long, and affords standing room for nearly 3000 persons. The façade, 46 ft. in length, is ornamented with appropriate carving and a statue of Ceres. It was opened Dec. 3, 1857.

In the *Market-place*, an extensive triangular area, stands the *Market-cross*, erected from the designs of Benj. Wyatt, the son of James Wyatt "the destructive," in 1814 at the cost of Lord Sidmouth. It bears two inscriptions, one commemorating Lord

Sidmouth's "grateful attachment to the town of Devizes," the other recording the following remarkable event which occurred here in 1753. "A woman named Ruth Pierce, of Potterne, having, with 3 others, bought a sack of wheat, and each paid as was thought their part of the money; a deficiency was found, and Ruth was accused of not having paid. To this she replied, 'She wished she might drop down dead if she had not.' She had scarcely spoken the words when she fell down and expired, having the money concealed in her hand." The adjoining fountain and statue were erected in 1879 to the memory of T. H. Sotherton-Estcourt, M.P., the founder of the Wilts Friendly Society, and chiefly by the gifts of its members.

The museum and library of the *Wiltshire Archæol. and Nat. Hist. Society*, founded 1853, under the patronage of the Marquis of Lansdowne, have since 1874 been placed in a convenient building in Long Street, near St. John's Church. The museum contains many objects of interest, especially the magnificent Stourhead collection of urns, celts, cups, ornaments and other objects discovered in the Wilts barrows, formed by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, deposited here by the present baronet. This collection will repay careful examination. There is also a fine collection of British birds, including several bustards. It also contains the collections of the late John Britton, consisting of original drawings of Salisbury Cathedral and of the Wiltshire churches; illustrated copies of Mr. Britton's works relating to this county; and his Celtic cabinet, enclosing models of Stonehenge and Avebury; and a remarkable collection of fossils, formed by Mr. William Cunnington, local secretary to this society, and grandson to the associate of Sir R. C. Hoare in his Wiltshire investigations.

The father of *Sir Thomas Lawrence*

(b. 1769, at Bristol, where his father was then landlord of the White Lion) was landlord of the Bear, and was famous as "the only man on the road for warm rooms, soft beds, and for reading Milton" (Graves' *Columella*), often mentioned by tourists with praise, together with his "ingenious family." Madam D'Arblay, who lodged at the Black Bear with Mrs. Thrale, in April 1780, expresses herself as "much pleased with our hostess, who seemed something above her station." She was in fact the daughter of the Rev. W. Read, vicar of Tenbury. The "public-spirited" landlord of the Bear erected at his own expense signal posts 12 ft. high, painted white, to guide travellers by night over Salisbury Plain. He fell into embarrassed circumstances and left Devizes for Weymouth soon after Mrs. Thrale's visit. At the Bear the youthful artist first learnt to draw likenesses, as well as to repeat poetry for the entertainment of customers. His father would introduce him to his visitors with, "Gentlemen, here's my son; will you have him recite from the poets, or take your portraits?" His first picture was painted here when he was about 7 years old. Devizes was the birthplace of *Joseph Alleine*, the eminent Nonconformist minister of Taunton (see Rte. 21, p. 386), b. 1633. He was several times imprisoned for preaching, and is best known by his 'Alarm to the Unconverted.' *Rob. Nicholas*, of All Cannings, M.P. for Devizes in the Long Parliament, was an active manager of the impeachment of Laud, whom he is accused of having treated with "unseemly insolence and insult, using foul and gross language." His name appears as one of Charles I.'s judges, but he prudently abstained from attending the trial. He subsequently became a Baron of the Exchequer under Cromwell.

The once notorious demagogue,

"Orator Hunt," married the daughter of the landlord of the Bear Inn, and became chairman of the Ordinary there, which gave him frequent opportunities for declamation. Devizes was the scene of not a few of his turbulent meetings.

Devizes is the head-quarters of the Royal Wiltshire Militia. Gibbon the historian visited Devizes in 1761, when captain of the Hants Militia, and entertained an unpleasant recollection of that "populous and disorderly town."

1 m. S. is the *Wilts County Asylum*, a plain but handsome building, by T. H. Wyatt; opened in 1851.

New Park, N., under Roundway Down (now called Roundway Park), was built by S. Wyatt. The park is commended by Repton as combining "all the materials of natural landscape." It was the seat of Wm. Sutton, Lord Sidmouth's brother-in-law.

Potterne, 1½ m. S., is a picturesquely situated village, with a good ch. and ancient houses (Rte. 7).

Roundway Hill, which rises immediately from Devizes, was the scene of the defeat of Sir William Waller by Lord Wilmot, 1643. After the battle of Lansdown, the Royalists, under the Marquis of Hertford and Prince Maurice, retreated to Devizes, closely followed by Waller, who soon invested the town and erected a battery against it. He, however, was repulsed in many desperate efforts to force an entrance, and the news soon arrived that Lord Wilmot was approaching with 1500 horse to the succour of the besieged. Waller drew off his men to oppose the coming foe, and took up a position on Roundway Down; but when he had descried the advancing troop, and perceived the smallness of their number, he descended from the hill and charged with his cavalry, confident of success. He had, however, much miscalculated the strength of the Royalists, for after a severe struggle his troopers were

overthrown, and his infantry, assailed on one side by Wilmot and on the other by the garrison of Devizes, were obliged to surrender. Waller himself put spurs to his horse and fled towards Bristol (from which this was styled by the Royalists "Runaway Hill"), leaving behind him his artillery, ammunition, and baggage, and 2000 men, either killed or prisoners. The view from the brow of Roundway should not be missed by any visitor to Devizes. A path leads from the church of St. Mary to the *Quaker's Walk*, which, skirting the grounds of *New Park*, seat of the Colstons, runs direct to the foot of the hill, whence the ascent is steep to the top. In a westerly direction the prospect is very extensive; to the S. it is limited by the chalk range of Salisbury Plain; E. it embraces the bold heights which abut upon Pewsey Vale; and N. it extends to the blue distance of N. Wilts and Gloucestershire. If inclined to extend his ramble, the pedestrian will find, a little way to the N.W., the Roman camp of *Oliver's Castle*, marked by a straggling group of beech-trees; and N.E., at the distance of 2½ m., the *Wansdyke* nearly as perfect as on the day when it was first thrown up.

Leaving Devizes,

87 m. is *Rowde*, 1 m. rt.: the *Ch.*, rebuilt in 1833, except the tower and part of the chancel, contains a font designed by Sir Digby Wyatt, who was born here.

2 m. l. is *Poulshot*, the houses interspersed with trees standing picturesquely round the village-green, of which Dr. Blayney, Hebrew Professor at Oxford (d. 1801), was incumbent. Izaak Walton, the son of the famous angler, was rector here in 1688, and hither Bishop Ken, his uncle, retired from Wells in 1688, "with all my coach-horses and as many of my saddle-horses as I well could" to prevent their being seized

by the invading force of William of Orange. When the "great storm" swept over the county in November 1703, which brought down the chimneys of the episcopal palace of Wells, and crushed the intruding Bishop Kidder and his wife, Ken was sleeping in his nephew's rectory at Poulshot, and escaped all harm, "although," as he writes in a private letter, "the beam which supported the roof over my head was shaken out to that degree, that it had but half an inch to hold, so that it was a wonder it could hold together." The *Ch.* is a picturesque little building (unrestored) with two low side windows. The tower is modern, erected in memory of the wife of a former rector, Canon Fisher.

89½ m. *Seend* Stat. A manor-house belonged to Humphry de Bohun, E. of Hereford and Essex, who, 1347, received a licence to fortify it. It is now a seat of the Awdrys. The manor in later times belonged to Lord Berners, the translator of Froissart, who directed his executors to sell it "for his soul's health."

Beautiful chalcidized casts of ammonites are found in the ferruginous sand in this parish. The view from the churchyard is pretty. In the *Ch.*, formerly a chapel-of-ease to Melksham, is a brass to John Stokys and his wife, 1498. The N. aisle is said to have been built by him: and in the moulding of its W. window is his device, a pair of shears. Many Walloon families settled about here temp. Henry VII. The same vein of iron ore as at Westbury has been found and worked here, but the operations are now suspended.

93½ m. is *Holt Junction*, where lines diverge N.E. by Melksham to the main line of the Gt. Western (Rte. 1), and S.W. to Trowbridge (Rte. 4).

96¼ m. *Bradford* (Rte. 4).

From Bradford the rly. follows the course of the Avon. The valley soon becomes very narrow, hemmed in between hills, in some places

rising almost precipitously, clothed with hanging woods and orchards. The frequent stations give the traveller opportunity of halting and examining the country more leisurely. He may do so with the assurance of being well repaid for the delay. The *Kennet and Avon Canal* accompanies the river through the whole of the valley, and crosses it by an aqueduct below Monkton Combe. The two counties of Wilts and Somerset meet in this valley, so that the traveller is sometimes in one and sometimes in the other. He commences in Wiltshire at

96½ m. passes rt. *Winsley*, said to have been the scene of a battle between Alfred and the Danes. Here is a house, a good work of Wood, the architect of Bath. The *Ch.* is new, but preserves the old tower with a saddleback roof. The little hamlet of *Conkwell*, 1½ m. N., picturesquely planted in a wooded cleft of the rock.

97¾ m. l. *Freshford* Stat. (co. Somerset) (*Charter House Hinton Abbey* is 1 m. distant, *Farleigh Castle* 2 m., by very pleasant footpaths, Rte. 4). Here Sir W. Napier wrote his 'History of the Peninsular War.' The *Ch.* is modern. The high ground, known as *Sharpstone* and *Mount Pleasant*, commands views up the 2 valleys, the White Horse at Westbury in the far distance in one, and the town of Bradford in the other. A path leads from Mount Pleasant to the ruins of Hinton Abbey.

We re-enter Wilts, and reach

98½ m. l. *Limpley Stoke* Stat., a romantic village with hanging woods and gardens, and a wild hillside well suited for picnic or sketching parties. The small *Ch.* has a Norm. door in the S. wall, and a stone pulpit. The chalice and paten bear the date 1577. In Stoke Wood above Chatley House is a celebrated holy well known as *Shingle Bell Well*. Here is a *Hydropathic Establishment*. A short

distance beyond the Stat. the Avon is crossed by a fine well-proportioned bridge. Wiltshire is left again at

99 m. l. *Monkton Combe*. At the *Viaduct Inn* the road to Frome is carried across the valley by a stone viaduct of 11 arches; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further the *Dundas Aqueduct* carries the Kennet and Avon Canal over the rly. and river. *Combe Down*, above the village, overhanging Bath, is honey-combed with quarries.

100 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Claverton* (originally *Clatfordton*), a very pretty village, standing in a most picturesque part of the winding valley. Opposite, reached by Warley Ferry, is the Gothic mansion of *Warley House* (H. D. Skrine, Esq.), embowered in the hanging woods that clothe the lower slopes of *Monkton Farleigh Down*. At Claverton are the stone terraces of a former mansion of the Bassets. The existing house, seated high on the hill, was built from a design by Sir Jeffrey Wyattville. The old house, which stood lower down the hill, and was flanked by terraced gardens, was besieged and taken by a Parliamentary force in the Civil War. Claverton was for 60 years the living of *Richard Graves*, d. 1804, author of the 'Spiritual Quixote.' He is buried in the *Ch.*, which was rebuilt and enlarged 1858. In the churchyard, a pretty enclosure, full of roses, is the tomb of *Ralph Allen* of Prior Park, interred here 1766. An agreeable walk leads to Bath by the road over Claverton Down, whence, from the summit of the hill, there is a fine view up the wooded valley to the distant oolite escarpment.

The geologist will find in the Avon valley and its branches many examples of the subsidence of the strata. On the hills bounding the l. bank of the river the effect of landslips may be observed in the inferior oolite, and from the commanding eminence of *Hampton Rocks* the spectator looks down upon rugged masses of oolite, which, having slipped from

the cap of the hill, now lie in picturesque confusion among the trees.

On the opposite side of the river, near the point of union of the Avon and Box valleys, stands *Monkton Farleigh Tower* (Rte. 4, p. 56) looking down on Bathford, and commanding a magnificent view of Bath and the heights and valleys around.

102 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Bathampton Stat.*

105 m. BATH (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 6.

HUNGERFORD TO SALISBURY,
TIDWORTH, THE WINTERBOURN
VALLEY, WINTERSLOW [THREE
ROUTES].

Hungerford. (See *Handbook for Berks.*)

The road runs through the edge of Berkshire to

4 m. *Shalbourn*, partly in Berks and partly in Wilts, in a valley surrounded on the N., E., and S. by the chalk hills, across which the road stretches, crossing the Roman Road from Marlborough at *Marton*, 6 m., and at 7 m. leaves on l. the little village of *Tidcombe*, perched on the down, and the *Long Barrow* close by. Further to E. is the entrenchment of *Haydon Hill Castle* and the hamlet of *Fosbury*. Leaving to the l. *Chute Heath* and the village of *Chute*, which bears the name of a forest which formerly extended far into Hampshire and in a northerly

direction to the skirts of Savernake, the road crosses the exposed uplands of Collingbourn Heath, passing rt. the villages S. of *Collingbourn Kingston* and *Collingbourn Ducis* (Rte. 3, p. 45).

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. a road crosses that we are pursuing, leading rt. by *East Everley* and Upavon to Devizes 18 m.: $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. to the little town of 7 m. *Ludgershall* (Rte. 3, p. 45).

[$2\frac{1}{4}$ m. rt. in the open country, over which the eye ranges freely, is *East Everley* and *Everley House* (Sir J. D. Astley) (Rte. 3). The surrounding hills abound in remains of earthworks in the shape of hut-circles, camps, and barrows. The latter are especially frequent. Sir R. C. Hoare remarks that no tract of country in his knowledge presents so many British tumuli as that between Everley and Amesbury. One near Everley, when opened by him, presented first the skeleton of a small dog, and nearly 6 ft. below, at the bottom of the barrow, the following very perfect interment collected on a level floor. The body of the deceased had been burned, and the bones and ashes piled up in a small heap, which was surrounded by a circular wreath of horns of the red deer, within which, and amidst the ashes, were 5 beautiful arrow-heads, cut out of flint, and a small red pebble. Thus we most clearly see the profession of the Briton here interred. In the flint arrow-heads we recognise his fatal implements of destruction; in the stags' horns we see the victims of his skill as a hunter; and the bones of the dog deposited in the same grave, and above those of his master, commemorate his faithful attendant in the chase.

On *Milton Hill*, to the N. of Everley, is a group of 8 barrows, arranged in 2 parallel lines, one of which is remarkable for a form more pointed than any other in the county; 2 m. S. is the bold entrenchment of

Sidbury Hill, crowned by a heart-shaped entrenchment, formed by two

ramparts and ditches, the inner 46 ft. deep, and enclosing an area of 17 acres, gorgeous in the early summer with a profusion of the Rosebay willow herb. From the principal entrance a raised causeway runs N. towards E. Everley, intersecting a barrow in its course, and passing W. of a British village. At other points banks and ditches diverge like rays from the earthwork, and lead either to the remains of British villages or to groups of tumuli; S.W. 2 m., the *Twin Barrows*, enclosed by a ditch; and W. *Lidbury* and *Chisenbury*.

In the neighbourhood are traces of no less than 9 British villages: 1. on Easton Hill, N.; 2. on Milton Hill, N.; 3. on Pewsey Heath, N.W.; 4. at Lidbury, W.; 5. on Comb Hill, S.W.; 6. in a vale adjoining Bulford Field, S.W.; 7. on Haxton Down, W. of Sidbury; 8. between Everley and Sidbury; 9. on Westdown Hill, S. of Sidbury.

The old road from East Everley to Salisbury (15 m.) passes over the bare open downs, and, until recently, existed as a turnpike-road only as far as East Everley, beyond which it was linked together by tracks on the turf.]

To resume our route:

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond the road to Ludgershall the Salisbury road divides; that to the rt. traversing the lonely downs, which are known as Salisbury Plain.

1 m. rt. is *Sidbury Hill*.

3 m. the road crosses *West Down*, and beyond it runs for about 3 m. below *Beacon Hill*, a ridge 690 ft. above the level of the sea, the summit bearing the mark of the ordnance corps. Numerous large barrows are disposed in groups about the valley and the neighbouring hills.

3 m. the traveller crosses one of the great western roads from London to the Land's End, skirted by an ancient bank and ditch, between the

75th and 76th milestones, and at the 74th joined by another, which descends to it from Beacon Hill.

[1 m. to the rt. is the town of *Amesbury*, and about 2 m. beyond *Amesbury*, *Stonehenge* (Rte. 8).]

3 m. About 1 m. to the rt. is *Ogbury Camp*, a circular entrenchment of 62 acres, regarded as an unaltered. The rampart, which is destitute of a fosse, is more than 30 ft. high.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Old Sarum* (Rte. 8).

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Salisbury*.

Returning to the l.-hand road, which runs through a valley enlivened by numerous villages, we reach in

2 m. *North Tidworth* (Inn: Ram).

The *Ch.* late *Perp.*, with earlier work in the tower, contains a monument to Thos. Pierce, Dean of Salisbury, ejected from his Fellowship at Magdalen, 1648. It is a village pleasantly situated in a valley below the woodlands and prospect tower of

Tidworth Park, now the property of Sir John Kelk, Bart., but formerly the seat of T. Assheton Smith, Esq. This gentleman was distinguished for his ardent love and pursuit of the chase, and as the proprietor of a kennel and stables which were the admiration of sporting men. They accommodated 3 packs of hounds and about 30 hunters, which here led no life of luxurious ease; as the squire, before his great age incapacitated him, took the field on every week-day during the season. The gardens are very beautiful. They were the creation of Mr. Smith, who, on succeeding to the paternal property in 1826, rebuilt the family mansion, and remodelled the grounds on a grand scale. A conservatory, now removed to Pokesdown, Bourne-mouth, connected with the house and stables by a corridor, measured no less than 310 ft. in length by 40 in breadth. At the death of Mr. A. Smith in 1858, he had hunted the *Tidworth* country for the long period of 31 years.

He commenced his career in Northamptonshire; then purchased the Quorn in Leicestershire, and afterwards worked the Burton Hunt in Lincolnshire. He was a bold and excellent rider—in his youth quite “a miracle on horseback.” His love of the chase remaining to the last, he erected a lofty tower in his grounds, from which he would watch the running of his hounds, when unable to follow them on the saddle. In memory of Mr. Smith, the “*Tidworth Hunt*” has been preserved: but a large portion of Mr. A. Smith’s stables and exercising-house have been taken down. The present proprietor has had the old mansion refronted in the Italian style, and greatly improved the general condition of the estate. A very beautiful *Ch.* has been erected in the Park from the designs of Mr. G. Hamilton Gordon, in the Transition style, at the cost of 12,000*l.* The mansion occupies the site of a manor-house, then owned by Mr. John Mompesson, reputed to have been haunted, in 1661, by an “invisible drummer,” of the same character as the one at Hurstmonceaux Castle, immortalised by Addison in his comedy. North *Tidworth*, in 1607, was the birthplace of *Robert Maton*, an eccentric millenarian divine. In passing through the village notice the slate railing by the roadside, from Mr. A. Smith’s Welsh quarries.

At a spot called *Hampshire Cross* our route enters Hampshire, in which it continues for 3 m.

1 m. The road traverses *Tidworth Park*; the house may be observed on the rt. To the l. is the hamlet of *South Tidworth*.

1 m. *Shipton* to the rt. If on foot, and bound to *Amesbury* (6 m.) or *Stonehenge* (8 m.), you may take a green road which strikes into the downs from this village.

1 m. Our route crosses the high

road from Andover to Amesbury (6 m. W.), and re-enters Wilts. *Park House*, an inn, stands at the crossing, and near it an ancient bank and ditch traverse the neighbouring fields. In a S.E. direction is the oblong camp of *Quarley Hill*, close above *Grately Station*.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Cholderton*, with a manor-house, was formerly the residence of the family of Foyle, by whom it was probably built in the 17th centy. The *Church*, erected 1844 (Wyatt and Brandon, architects), is in the Perp. style, constructed to carry an ancient timber roof brought from one of the Eastern counties, with an octagon tower and spire at one of the angles of the W. front.

[2 m. S. of Cholderton the *London and S. W. Rly.* enters Wilts at the *Hampshire Gap*, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from London, and runs side by side with the Roman road, rt., from Silchester to Old Sarum, to

78 m. *Porton Stat.*, and
83 m. *Salisbury*.]

The road we are pursuing follows the course of the Winterbourn stream, passing through pretty villages almost every $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and running in the main parallel to the rly.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Cholderton is *Wilbury Park* (Hon. P. Scawen Wyndham), built in the reign of James I. by Auditor Benson, and purchased by Sir Charles Malet in 1803. The east wing was formerly a chapel. It is in the parish of *Newton Toney*, S.; the *Ch.* rebuilt 1844.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Allington*. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1851, stands in a little retired dell surrounded with chalk hills. When Nicholas Fuller, a very learned divine, was rector here, he was suddenly sent for by Lancelot Andrewes, Bp. of Winchester. The poor man was very much afraid, not knowing what hurt he had done. A dish was put before him at dinner, and on raising the cover he found in it a

presentation to a Prebend. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Silchester in Hampshire pursued its course along the hills to the l.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *East Boscombe*. Of this place *Richard Hooker*, author of 'The Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity,' was rector, 1591-95, by the presentation of Archbp. Whitgift during the vacancy of the see of Salisbury; and here he wrote the first 4 books of his great work. Part of Hooker's Rectory-house still remains. The *Ch.* is small and mean.

1 m. *Idmiston*. The Rev. *John Bowle*, a scholar in Spanish literature and vicar of Idmiston, lies buried in the church, b. 1725, d. 1788. He edited an edition of 'Don Quixote' in 6 vols. 4to., and was familiarly known as Don Bowle. The *Ch.* has a W. tower and spire, a good E. E. chancel with triple lancet, nave and aisles Perp., with a fine roof. It is a very good specimen of a village church. There is a monument of the family of Rowbach, 1533.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Porton* (stat. of S. W. Rly.), has a small *Ch.*, rebuilt on a new site, 1877 from Mr. J. L. Pearson's plans.

1 m. *Winterbourn Gunner*, so named from Gunnora, wife of Henry De la Mere, the lord of this place in the reign of Hen. III.

1 m. further down the stream are the villages of *Winterbourn Dauntsey*, so called from the Dauntsey family (Rte. 1), to whom it belonged temp. Edw. I., and *Winterbourn Earls*. The mean and dilapidated churches of these villages were pulled down, and a new one for the two erected 1868 from designs by T. H. Wyatt.

1 m. *Winterbourn Ford*, where the Roman road from Winchester forded the stream on its way to Old Sarum. About 1 m. to the l. on the other side of the rly. is the conspicuous earthwork known since Stukeley's days as

Chlorus's Camp, but more truly *Figbury* or *Fripsbury Ring*, an entrench-

ment of 15 acres, remarkable for containing a deep ditch within the ramparts. The outer vallum girdling this circular camp is 46 ft. in height, and pierced by 3 entrances, pointing E., W., and S.; that towards the E. is fortified by outworks. On the S. are remains of the Roman road from Old Sarum to Winchester; and towards the N. and N.E. a network of Celtic banks and ditches. The supposed connection with Constantius Chlorus, the father of Constantine the Great, is a baseless fancy, resting on an impossible derivation of "Clarendon." Old Sarum is a very conspicuous object to rt.

1 m. *Laverstock*, the *Ch.* of which was rebuilt in 1844. *Laverstock House* is a large private lunatic asylum. The *Hill* is the residence of Lord Edward Thynne.

½ m. *Salisbury*.

The old road from Andover to Salisbury enters Wilts at *Lobcombe Corner*, on Salisbury Plain.

1½ m. The *Pheasant Inn* or *Winterslow Hut*. Numerous banks and ditches and barrows to the rt., including 2 of the largest in the county. 1. *Winterslow*. The manor was held by John de Roches in the reign of Edw. III. by a singular service. Whenever the king should be staying at Clarendon the lord of Winterslow should go to that palace, take from any vessel he chose as much wine as would be needful for making "one pitcher of claret," which he should make at the king's charge; that he should serve the king, and then keep for himself the cup, the wine that was left, and all the wine that was left in the vessel from which he drew it.

Winterslow House, in W. Winterslow, formerly a residence of the family of Fox, was burnt to the ground in 1774, on which occasion Henry Richard, 3rd Lord Holland, then only 6 weeks old, had a narrow escape of his life, being borne through

the fire in the arms of his mother. The second Lord Holland had purchased the estate of the Thistlethwaytes. The father of the late Sir Benj. Brodie, as a friend of C. James Fox, was presented to the living, and here the eminent surgeon was born, 1783.

Wm. Hazlitt during a considerable portion of his life spent several months of each year at Winterslow Hut. The chief attraction was the thorough quiet of the place, the sole interruption of which was the passage to and fro of the London mails. The Hut stands in a valley equidistant about a mile from two tolerably high hills, at the summit of which on their approach, either way, the guards used to blow forth their admonition to the hostler. After his marriage in 1806, Hazlitt lived in the village, where Charles and Mary Lamb paid him frequent visits, "thorough Londoners in a thoroughly country place, delighted and wondering and wondered at," walking from 8 to 20 miles a day, and heartily enjoying the "quiet delicious lazy holiday." Hazlitt's 'Winterslow Essays' were written here.

In Oct. 1816, on a dark still night, Winterslow Hut was the scene of a curious incident. The Exeter mail, on its road to London, was in the act of pulling up, when, to the dismay of the affrighted passengers, the off leader was seized by a lioness, which had escaped from a caravan on its way to Salisbury fair. A large mastiff bounded to the rescue, but the lioness left the horse, which had fought with great spirit, and pursued the dog, which it killed within 40 yards. The keeper of the animal, however, soon arrived, and, with considerable risk to himself, contrived to drive it into an outhouse, and there secured it. There is in the parlour of the inn a painting of the scene.

ROUTE 7.

DEVIZES TO SALISBURY (TWO ROUTES).

POTTERNE, MARKET LAVINGTON:
URCHFONT, SALISBURY PLAIN.

From Devizes there are two roads to Salisbury. That to the W. leads by comparatively sheltered valleys and through villages, and is the more picturesque and agreeable. That to the E. conducts the traveller over the bleak rolling surface of Salisbury Plain. The length of both is nearly the same, about 24 or 25 m. To commence with that to the W. Starting from the S. end of Devizes.

2 m. *Potterne*, in a small sheltered valley, remarkable for the mildness of the air and picturesqueness of its position. Mrs. Gaskell describes it as "a quiet little village, far inland, nestled beneath the stretches of Salisbury Plain." A long-since forgotten inhabitant has obtained wide celebrity in the saying, "like old Ross of Potterne, that lived till all the world was weary of him." Potterne was a manor of the bishops of Salisbury, who had a house here, which received Henry III., July 12, 1255, which Bishop Rob. Wyville obtained license to crenellate, 1237, and where Bp. Mitford died in 1407. The noble parish church, standing high above the village, is of about the same date as the Cathedral of Salisbury, and may very probably owe its erection to Bp. Poore. Like that cathedral, it was erected from the ground on a new site. The old site is still known as "the old churchyard." The *Ch.* is an aisleless cruciform building with N. and S. porches, and is a fine example of E. E. on a large scale, well preserved and unmixed. It has a square central tower with fine Perp. stone lattice work in the E. E. belfry

windows. The characteristic of the building is extreme simplicity and regularity; sculpture is almost entirely wanting, and mouldings are used very sparingly, but the want of elaboration is fully compensated by good proportion and refinement of detail. There are triple lancets in the E. and W. gables, and double lancets in transept gables. The Eastern group is singularly beautiful. The *Ch.* was restored in 1871 by Mr. Christian. A very curious tub-shaped font, probably of Saxon date, was found during the repairs buried beneath the then existing font. Round the upper rim is Ps. xlii. 1: "sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te Deus," in very early characters. The windows contain some good modern stained glass. The picturesque village contains some good half-timbered houses with ornamental bargeboards and projecting upper story. One of these, called the *Porch House*, has been carefully restored by its owner, G. Richmond, Esq., R.A. It contains a dining-hall with an oriel, and an open roof, paved in mosaic. *Blount's Court* is the seat of W. Stancomb, Esq. Sold in 1906 to Henry W.H.S.

4 m. *Market Lavington* (sometimes called *Steeple Lavington*, by mistake for *Staple* i.e. *Market Lavington*) pleasantly situated in a fertile valley at the base of the chalk-hills, which form the N. boundary of Salisbury Plain, consists chiefly of one street. It was the birthplace, 1674, of Bp. Tanner of St. Asaph, author of the *Notitia Monastica*, whose father was Vicar of the parish, and to whom there is a monument in the *Ch.*, which stands on elevated ground W. of the town. (Rte. 4, p. 53.)

West or Bishop's Lavington lies 1 m. S.W.; in a house still standing here, Captain Henry Penruddocke, son of Sir J. Penruddocke, was brutally killed as he was sleeping in his chair after 2 nights of hard service, by a

party of Ludlow's troopers, Dec. 1644. An inscription in the *Ch.* specifies that he was "slain by a soldier of the contrary party." In the *Lords' aisle* are 2 altar-tombs, to members of the Danvers family.

[2 m. W. are *Great* and *Little Cheverell*, of the former of which Sir James Stonehouse, the friend of Hannah More, and the "Mr. Johnson" of her 'Shepherd of Salisbury Plain,' was incumbent. The character of the shepherd was drawn from a poor man named Saunders, whose cottage is still pointed out on Cheverell Down. The *Ch.* of Great Cheverell is ancient E.E.; that of Little Cheverell was rebuilt 1850.]

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond Market Lavington the road climbs the down, and enters on Salisbury Plain, crossing on the crest of the hill the *Ridgeway*. It continues over the exposed surface of *Tilshead Down* and by the village of *Tilshead*, where the Norm. or Transitional church deserves notice. *Tilshead Lodge* in the midst of the downs was built by Wm. Duke of Cumberland as a racing establishment. Crossing the embankment known as the *Old Ditch* between the *White Barrow* rt., and *Silver Barrow*, l. it descends into the valley of Winterbourne, with its almost continuous line of villages. The first of these are

7 m. (from Lavington) *Orcheston St. Mary* and *Orcheston St. George*, which are succeeded by *Shrewton* (*Ch.* rebuilt, 1855), *Maddington*, and *Rollleston*, each with an ancient *Ch.* not undeserving of a visit.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Rollleston is *Winterbourne Stoke*. The *Ch.* is cruciform but aisleless, with a central tower and turret. The N. transept has been rebuilt. There are good Norm. N. and S. doors, an E. E. triplet at the E. end and an hourglass stand,

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. is *Berwick St. James*. The cruciform *Ch.* has a Norm. N. door and tower, and a stone pulpit entered through the wall.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Stapleford*.

$1\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Wishford Stat.*

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wilton Stat.*

$2\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Salisbury*. (See Rte. 11, Salisbury to Westbury.)

The other road to Salisbury leaves Devizes at the E. end of the town, and for 3 m. runs nearly parallel with the rly. to Hungerford (Rte. 5).

4 m. rt. lies *Urchfont*, which has a highly interesting cruciform *Ch.*, chiefly Decorated, with E. E. remains, and Perp. sq. tower at W. end crowned with a belfry turret. The chancel and S. porch are both vaulted in stone, and are of excellent workmanship. The porch is very curious, being roofed externally in stone, with arched ribs enriched by finials at the ridge. The ridge of the chancel roof has also a flowered ornament.

Beyond this Salisbury Plain proper is entered. The tall poles set up, every $\frac{1}{2}$ m. along the road, by the father of Sir T. Lawrence (Rte. 5, p. 74), have given place to ordinary milestones. At the present day clumps of trees are to be seen on almost every hill (planted chiefly as shelter for game) and even here and there along the road. Large tracts have been brought under cultivation. Farm-buildings are seldom out of sight, and the farm-houses are usually provided with well-kept gardens. The Plain presents a different aspect from when "Thomas Ingoldsby" wrote:

"O Salisbury Plain is bleak and bare,
At least so I've heard many people declare,
For I fairly confess I never was there:

Not a shrub nor a tree,

Nor a bush can we see,

No hedges, no ditches, no gates, no stiles,

Much less a house or a cottage for miles.

It's a very sad thing to be caught in the rain
When night's coming on upon Salisbury Plain."

16 m. *Redhorn Turnpike*, where the road crosses the ancient *Ridgeway*.

Broadway Camp is 2 m. E. The wild open country which the road crosses is appropriately known as "*Black Heath*."

18½ m. l. *Ell Barrow* (*Ell A.-S.* strange, foreign). A large bank and ditch traverse the country to the E. of it. N.E. 1 m. is a small entrenchment called *Castle Ditches*: and 3 m. in a similar direction,

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce." In the centre is a supposed sacred circle.

21¾ m. The *Bustard Inn*, as an inn, exists no longer. It is now a private residence. [As no accommodation can now be had either here or at the *Druid's Head* (also no longer an inn) tourists wishing to explore Stonehenge, 4 m. S.E., or the earthworks of Salisbury Plain, must make Amesbury or Wilton their headquarters, or provide themselves with refreshments from one of those places.] The Great Bustard was formerly common on the Wiltshire hills, but is now almost extinct. In 1801 one of these birds attacked a horseman in the country near Tilshead; and in January, 1856, a fine male specimen was captured near Hungerford. 2 were seen near Newbury, Berks, in 1864, but escaped capture. In 1871, 5 were seen, one being shot at Berwick St. James, and a second at Maddington. The Rev. W. Chafin, in a book written 48 years ago, mentions that once between Andover and Salisbury, he put up 25 bustards at once.

1 m. l. ancient earthworks; near a clump of trees called *Robin Hood's Ball* is an earthen circle without ditch or entrance, with another within it, and,

at a distance of 2 m., *Knighton Long Barrow*.

24 m. *Stonehenge* 1½ m. to the l. The view on all sides is wild and dreary:

"the spacious plain
Of Sarum, spread like Ocean's boundless
round,
Where solitary Stonehenge, grey with moss,
Ruin of ages, nods." *Dyer's Fleece*.

27 m. The *Druid's Head* or *Woodford Hut*, formerly resorted to by visitors to Stonehenge, is no longer an inn; S.W. of it, on the slope of a hill, is a large ancient enclosure formed by a bank.

31 m. rt. the *Field of the Tournament* (see Rte. 8). Adjoining is the Salisbury Cemetery. On l. a noble view of Old Sarum.

33 m. *Salisbury*.

ROUTE 8.

ROMSEY TO SALISBURY [OLD SARUM, AMESBURY, STONEHENGE, WILTON, LONGFORD, CLARENDON].

The South-Western Railway from Southampton by Bishopstoke and Romsey enters Wiltshire at

20¼ m. *West Dean*, partly in Hants and partly in Wilts.

West Dean House, now pulled down, was formerly a seat of the Evelyns, and afterwards of the first Duke of Kingston, and is mentioned in the letters of his celebrated daughter, Lady Mary Montagu. The *Ch.* is

rich in monuments of the Evelyns and Pierreponts; among them are those to John Evelyn and his lady, 1625, their kneeling effigies being represented in the costume of the time of James I.; Sir J. Evelyn, 1685, and a very conspicuous and eccentric pile of white marble, with long and strange epitaphs, to R. Pierrepont, 1669. In the village a mosaic pavement was discovered 1741.

[$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. on the other side of Dean Hill, which stretches its long chalk ridge dotted over with yews along the line of the rly. S., is

Milchet Park (or *Melchet*), formerly a royal Forest, purchased in 1821 by Lord Ashburton. The house, now residence of the Hon. and Rev. Fred. Baring, occupies an elevated site commanding a wide and beautiful view: on an eminence in the park stands a Hindoo temple, erected 1800 by its then possessor, Major Osborne, in memory of Warren Hastings. It was designed by Thomas Daniell, R.A. Over the portal is the figure of Ganesa, the genius of wisdom, and within the temple a bust of Warren Hastings rising out of the sacred flower of the lotus. "Sacred to the genii of India, who from time to time assume material forms to protect its nations and its laws, particularly to the immortal Hastings."

6 m. S. of West Dean is

Landford, where a *Ch.* has been built from designs by Butterfield. *Landford Manor House*, the seat of the Lyghs and Davenants, was purchased c. 1720 by John Eyre, from whom it has descended in the female line to Earl Nelson. Its chief front was modernized towards the beginning of the 18th cent. *Landford Lodge*, originally Breach House, belonged to Dodington Egerton, and was bought 1776, by Sir W. Heathcote of Hursley, who rebuilt it.

To the W. of Landford 8 m. is the wild wood of the *Earldoms*, originally

granted by King Edmund to Wulfgar his Thane, which derives its name from having anciently belonged to the Earls of Pembroke. In its recesses is an entrenchment called *Castle Hill*, undoubtedly of British or Saxon origin, formed by a single rampart and ditch, which encircle a little spring which wells up in the enclosure. On the southern verge of these woods is *Hamptworth Lodge*, G. Morrison, Esq.

To the N.W. of the Earldoms is *New House* or *Tychebourne Park* (G. E. Matcham, Esq.), erected c. 1619, and enlarged by Chief Justice Eyre, 1689.

3 m. S. is *Whiteparish*, in which there stands, W. of the church, a manor-house of the Lynches of the time of James I., with some carved work in wood on the outside, and at the entrance of the village, N.E., in a pretty position, *Whelpley*, an ancient farmhouse, and "very interesting relic of the old yeoman's establishment;" and on an adjoining knoll, commanding a view over the New Forest to the sea, the remains of a chapel to St. Leonard. E. of *Whiteparish* is *Cowsfield House*, mansion of the Lawrences, partly rebuilt 1815, but still preserving the traces of its Eliz. date. 2 m. W. is *Brickworth House*, a Jacobean mansion, but modernised and much injured by fire, for many years a seat of the Eyres, and lately of the Countess Dowager Nelson.

In *Whiteparish Ch.* are monuments of the St. Barbes, and Eyres of Brickworth. There is one to *Giles Eyre*, Sheriff 1640, who resisted forced loans to Charles I., was plundered by royal troops and imprisoned. He was the father of Rev. Wm. Eyre of St. Edmund's Sarum, "a rigid Calvinist, enemy to tithes, and a purchaser of church revenues; in those sad times he by his doctrine advanced much the blessed cause at Sarum as Commissioner for scandalous ministers." —*Anthony à Wood.*]

22½ m. W. *East Grinstead*, 1½ m. N. *Farley*, birthplace of *Sir Stephen Fox*, b. 1627, founder of the noble families of Fox and Ilchester. The *Alms House* or *Hospital* at Farley contains a portrait of Sir Stephen, by Lely. In the brick *Ch.* erected by Sir Stephen are mural monuments to himself and his two wives, a tablet to his distinguished grandson, Charles James Fox, and a monument to Henry Thomas, Earl of Ilchester, by the younger Westmacott.

23 m. l. *West Grinstead*.

23¾ m. l. *Alderbury Junction Stat.*, where an E. Eng. *Ch.* with a spire was built in 1858.

Alderbury House, G. Fort, Esq., was erected with the materials of the ancient belfry of Salisbury Cathedral, pulled down by James Wyatt. [Here a line diverges l. by *Downton* to *Wimborne* (Rte. 13).] Proceeding along the line we have *Clarendon Lodge* rt. and *Ivy Church* l., and reach

26¾ m. *Milford Junction*, connecting the S.W. and G.W. railways, where the line strikes N., and piercing *Mizmaze Hill* by a tunnel reaches

28¾ m. SALISBURY (*Inns*: White Hart, capital and clean; Red Lion; Three Swans). Pop. of Parl. borough, 15,659. [Railways diverge from Salisbury: the *Great Western* by Heytesbury and Warminster to Westbury: the *South-Western* by Andover and Basingstoke to London; by Sherborne and Yeovil to Exeter; by Romsey and Bishopstoke to Southampton; and the *Salisbury and Dorset Junction* by Downton to Wimborne. The Stations are at Fisherton N.W. of the city.]

This cathedral and county town is situated in a valley at the confluence of 3 streams, the Upper Avon, Bourn, and Wylye, and near the junction of a 4th, the Nadder, from which, formerly, copious rivulets flowed uncovered through the principal streets:

from which Salisbury has been absurdly likened to a "heap of islets thrown together," and, with a bolder fancy, to Venice. The epitaph to Mr. Francis Hide, who died while secretary to the Embassy at Venice, runs,

"Born in the English Venice, thou dost lie,
Dear friend, in the Italian Salisbury."

After the fearful visitation of cholera in 1849, a thorough system of drainage was carried out in the years 1853-4, at an expense, including the water supply, of 27,000*l.* Salisbury is now one of the best drained and healthiest towns in the kingdom.

The plan of the city is remarkably regular, an advantage due to the fact of its being a new town laid out in its entirety at its first foundation, and not allowed to grow up without system, as is usually the case. Before the buildings were commenced the ground was very wisely partitioned into squares or "chequers," as they were called, and to this we owe the regularity and airiness of the place, the houses being arranged in rectangular groups, which face a thoroughfare on each side, and enclose in the centre an open space for yards and gardens, the streets running in straight lines—5 from N. to S., and as many from E. to W. It was once famous for clothing and cutlery, but both these manufactures have now dwindled to nothing.

Salisbury owes its origin to the removal of the episcopal see from Old Sarum by Bp. Poore. The situation of Old Sarum, naturally strong and rendered almost impregnable by its formidable lines of entrenchment, was in many respects inconvenient. There was a scarcity of water; and the cathedral stood so high and exposed that, according to an old tradition, "when the wind did blow they could not hear the priest say mass."

"Est ibi defectus aquæ,"

run the verses of Peter of Blois, himself a canon of Salisbury,—

“ . . . sed copia cretæ,
Sæviti ibi ventus, sed Philomela silet.”

In addition to this, after the fall of Bishop Roger, the castle of Old Sarum, which up to that time had been in the custody of the bishops, was transferred by the King to the keeping of lay castellans; and the ecclesiastics complained of suffering much insult and annoyance from the castellans and their rude soldiery. On one occasion, after a solemn procession, they were shut out from their precincts, and compelled to remain without shelter during a long winter's night. At other times, even on solemn festivals, they were refused access to their own cathedral. “What has the house of the Lord to do with castles?” continues Peter of Blois: “it is the ark of the covenant in a temple of Baalim. Let us, in God's name, descend into the level. There are rich champaigns and fertile valleys, bounding in the fruits of the earth, and profusely watered by living streams. There is a seat for the Virgin patroness of our Church to which the whole world cannot produce a parallel.”

Accordingly, license having been obtained from Pope Honorius, the long-expressed wishes for a removal were carried into effect by Bishop Poore. The site of the new cathedral, according to one tradition, was determined by an arrow shot from the ramparts of Old Sarum; accordingly to another, the site was revealed to Bishop Poore in a dream by the Virgin herself. There is evidence, however, that the lay inhabitants of Old Sarum as well as the Churchmen were beginning to find the limits of the castle somewhat too narrow, and that they were already removing to new habitations in the meadow of Merryfield *i.e.* the *Maer* or boundary field: where three ancient Hundreds, Underdit, Alderbury and Cawdon formerly met; and where, on the festival of St. Vitalis (April 28, 1220), the first stones of the

existing cathedral of Salisbury were solemnly laid by Bishop Poore. The strong defences which at the period of the Conquest had rendered the castle of Old Sarum a desirable place of refuge, were no longer so greatly needed; and the land on which the new town and cathedral were building was the actual property of the Bishop.

Salisbury soon increased in extent and grew into importance. In 1227, Henry III., in the eleventh year of his reign, granted a charter to incorporate the new town, making it a *free city*, with the same extensive immunities and privileges as Winchester enjoyed. In 1278 Edward I. granted a charter confirmatory of the original one.

In 1244 Bishop Bingham availed himself of the royal charter granted to his predecessor, and brought the Icknield Street, or great western road, through Salisbury. [The original course of this road was over the hill from Old Sarum, through the rectory garden at Bemerton, and across the meadows towards the race-plain. Bishop Bingham diverted its course to the New City, and built the bridge over the Avon at Harnham.] This proceeding, so advantageous to the interests of the rising community, was most injurious to Wilton, and fatal to Old Sarum. In 1295, the city first sent members to Parliament. In the year 1310 a deep fosse was made by the citizens (by permission of the Bishop) for the defence of the city on the north and north-east sides, it being sufficiently defended by the rivers on the south and south-west.

The new city soon began to take the place of the old one as an important centre of the national life of England, and its annals are illustrated with many stirring events. From its position on the great western road it was in times of civil commotion a place of importance, and particularly exposed to the passage of troops. Here, in 1289, the Com-

missioners met to arrange a match between Prince Edward and the Princess Margaret of Scotland, "the Maid of Norway," when 4 ambassadors from Eric, King of Norway, were also present. A Parliament of the Barons of the Realm was held here in Feb. 1297. Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and De Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Lord Constable, being required by Edward I. to command the forces setting sail for Guienne, refused to comply, and withdrew from the assembly, which broke up, nothing done. A Parliament was held here April 20, 1384, when the Duke of Lancaster was accused by a Carmelite friar of a design of killing Richard II. A day was appointed for hearing the charge, but the day before the friar was found murdered. Salisbury was visited by Richard II. before his first expedition to Ireland. The citizens espoused the cause of Henry IV., and received letters of thanks from him for their attachment to his cause. The city was honoured by the presence of Henry VI., in 1434 and 1438, and his Queen in 1445, when all householders were ordered to provide themselves with "a good gown of blood-colour and a red hood." After Jack Cade's execution one of his quarters was sent here. The year 1484 witnessed a visit from Richard III., and the execution of the Duke of Buckingham, who had been brought hither from Shrewsbury, where he had been betrayed and arrested. "Without arraignment or judgment" (i.e. by martial law, having been taken in arms), "he was in the open market-place, on a new scaffold, put to death." This death he received at the hands of King Richard (III.), whom he had before, in his affairs, purposes, enterprises, holden, sustained, and set forward above all Goddes forbode."—*Hall's Chronicle*. The fact is "The deep-revolving witty Buckingham" had become dangerous:—

"The first was I, that help'd thee to the crown;

The last was I that felt thy tyranny:
O, in the battle think on Buckingham,
And die in terror of thy guiltiness!"

Richard III., Act v. sc. 3.

The execution is said to have taken place in the yard of the *Blue Boar Inn*, which stood on the site of the present *Saracen's Head*. A headless skeleton, wanting the right arm, exhumed in the kitchen of this inn in 1838, is supposed to have been Buckingham's, but more trustworthy accounts state that he was buried at the Grey Friars, London. The then Bishop of Salisbury, Lionel Woodville, was brother-in-law to the Duke, and his death, which occurred the next year, is supposed to have been hastened by the bloody end of his relative and the accumulated sorrows of his house. Salisbury was now frequently honoured by visits from royal personages. Henry VII. was here in 1491, and again, accompanied by his Queen and his mother, in 1496. Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn in 1535. Edward VI. in 1551. In Mary's reign the fires of martyrdom were kindled here, and three men were burnt as heretics at *Shertonfield*, March 23, 1556. Elizabeth was here on her progress to Bristol, 1574, and received a present of "a cup of gold, and 20*l.* in gold, whereat her majesty was both merry and pleasant." Salisbury was a favourite place of retirement of James I., who liked the freedom from restraint, and facilities for the chase he found here. His first visit was in 1603, soon after his coronation when he received, not a gold, but a silver-gilt cup, and 20*l.*, and his queen 20*l.* also. James always occupied the Palace during his visits, in the Hall of which, in 1618, he created Robert Viscount Lisle Earl of Leicester, and William Compton Earl of Northampton. Sir Walter Raleigh spent a few sad days here on his last journey to London. James was here, and Raleigh sought to gain time by

feigning sickness by the aid of a French quack named Manourie. Here he wrote his 'Apology for the Voyage to Guiana.' Charles I. came here in 1625, when Bp. Davenant declined to resign his Palace to him, and the king moved on to Wilton. The year 1627 saw a much less welcome guest, the plague. A general panic and flight ensued. The excellent Mayor, John Ivie, proved himself a true Christian hero, and relieved the poor, checked insubordination, and repressed rapine and excess. At the period of the Rebellion it was alternately occupied by either party as they marched through the country—by Ludlow, then by Dodington, and next by Waller, who in turn retreated before the King and Prince Maurice. In 1645 Ludlow with a few horsemen held the Close against Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and for several hours maintained an unequal fight in the market-place and adjoining streets, his troopers on one occasion charging through the narrow passage by the Poultry Cross. Oct. 17 of the same year Cromwell was here after the siege of Basing House. After the battle of Worcester Charles II. lay concealed for a few days near Salisbury, and at the King's Arms, St. John-street, his friends met in secret and successfully planned his escape. The city then regained the tranquillity it had lost, but in 1655 it was once again disturbed by the abortive rising of Penruddocke and his companions, who entered it in considerable force at the time of the Assizes, captured the judges and sheriff, and proclaimed Charles II.; but meeting with no sympathy, retired, and were soon afterwards seized and executed. The memoirs of the excellent Lady Fanshawe present us with a pleasing picture. She and her family were accompanying Sir Richard, who was on his way to Portugal, charged with an important public mission, August 1662. "My husband and I and our

children," she writes, "having begged of the Bishop (Humphry Henchman) a blessing at his own house, dined at Blandford." Charles II. took refuge here from fear of the plague in 1665. The last event of moment of which this city was the scene occurred at the memorable crisis of the Revolution of 1688. The army had been concentrated at Salisbury to oppose the Prince of Orange, but, his landing having been effected in Torbay, it hastened forward to welcome him, and James, who had taken up his quarters in the Palace, November 19, found it necessary to retrace his steps. On the 4th of December the Prince of Orange triumphantly entered the city, "with the same military pomp he had displayed at Exeter, and was lodged in the Palace James had occupied but a few days before."—*Macaulay*. A few days later William removed to Littlecote, where he received the welcome intelligence of the King's flight from London.

The *Cathedral* is the chief object of attraction to every visitor to Salisbury. In some respects it may be considered the first of our English cathedrals, and, taken as a whole, it must always hold a very high place among them.

"In this church," writes Mr. Ferguson, "we have a plan not only extremely beautiful, but perfectly original. There is scarcely any trace of French or foreign influence; everything is the result of the native elaboration during the previous century and a half. The apsidal arrangement, so universal in Norman cathedrals, has disappeared never to return (except in Westminster Abbey and Lichfield); and the square E. termination may henceforth be considered as established in this country—the early symbol of that independence which eventually led to the Reformation. When viewed from any point E. of the great transept, it

displays one of the best proportioned and, at the same time, most poetic designs of the middle ages. The spire is among the most imposing objects of which Gothic architecture can boast."

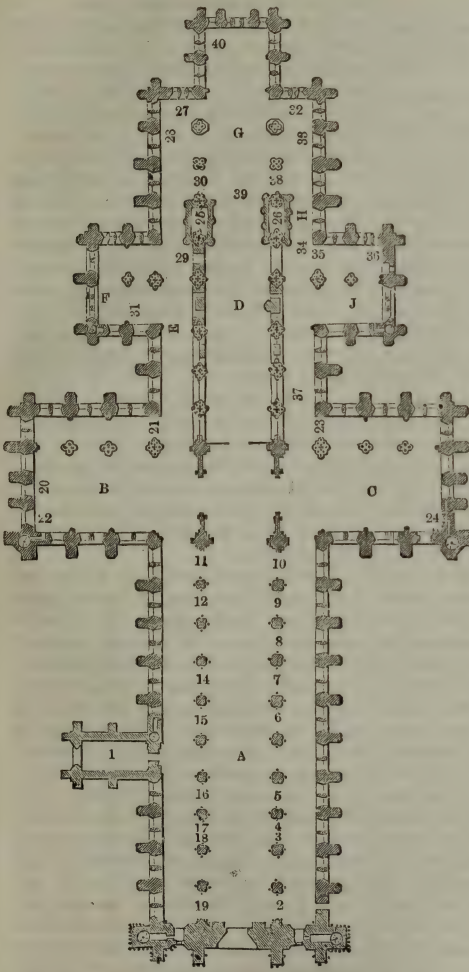
The ground plan shows the fully-developed arrangement of a second or choir transept, found also at Canterbury, Lincoln, Worcester, Beverley, and Rochester, and at Clugny in France. The Lady-chapel projects at a lower altitude at the E. extremity, and there is a lofty and dignified N. porch. To the S. of the nave are the Cloisters and Chapter-house, and beyond them the Bishop's palace.

The foundation was laid by Bishop Poore, April 28, 1220: the first stone for the Pope, Honorius III., who had consented to the removal of the church from Old Sarum; the second for Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, then absent with the young king, Henry III., in the marches in Wales; and the third for Bishop Poore himself. The fourth stone was laid by William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury; and the fifth by the Countess Ela, his wife. Others of the nobles and clergy who were present then added to the foundations; and when the great body of the nobles returned with the King from Wales, many of them visited Salisbury, "and each laid his stone, binding himself to some special contribution for a period of seven years." In five years' time (1225) the work was so far advanced that three altars were consecrated by Bishop Poore. Bishop Poore's immediate successors, Robert Bingham (1229—1246), William of York (1246—1256), and Giles of Bridport (1256—1262), carried on with great zeal the building of the new cathedral, which in 1258, during the episcopate of Bishop Giles, was "new hallowed" by Archbishop Boniface of Savoy, in presence of Henry III. and his Queen. Its final dedication took place, Lady Day, 1260. Before

the completion of the cathedral, William Longespée died, and was buried in it; and the bodies of three bishops—Osmund, Roger, and Joscelyn—were brought to it from Old Sarum. Elias de Dereham, a personal friend of Bishop Poore's, acted as clerk of the works for the first twenty years, and a certain "Robertus" for the twenty following. The cost of the whole work is said to have been 40,000 marks, or 26,666*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* This sum was collected by contributions from the prebendaries themselves, by collections from different dioceses, to each of which a prebendary of Salisbury was duly despatched, and by liberal grants from various benefactors, such as Alicia de Bruere, who gave all the stone necessary for the work during twelve years.

The cloisters and chapter-house were commenced during the episcopate of Walter de la Wyley (1263—1270), and perhaps completed in that of his successor, Robert de Wickhampton (1270—1284). The spire (which seems, however, to have formed part of the original plan) was erected in the time of Bishop Robert de Wyvil (1330—1375).

The history of no English cathedral is so clear and so readily traceable as that of Salisbury. With the exception of St. Hugh's Choir at Lincoln (commenced 1192), it was the first great church built in England in what was then the new, or Pointed style (Early English); of which it still remains, as a whole, one of the finest and most complete examples. The cathedral is built throughout with freestone obtained from the Chilmark quarries, situated about twelve miles from Salisbury, towards Hindon, and still worked. The stone belongs to the Portland beds of the oolite. The pillars and pilasters of the interior are of Purbeck shell-marble. The local rhyme in which the cathedral is celebrated may here be quoted; it



REFERENCES.

- A. Nave.
- B. North Transept.
- C. South Transept.
- D. Choir.
- E. North Choir-aisle.
- F. North-east Transept.
- G. Eastern Aisles and Lady-chapel.
- H. South Choir-aisle.
- J. South-east Transept.

- 1. North Porch.
- 2. Moniment assigned to Bp. Herman.
- 3. Bp. Jocelyn.
- 4. Bp. Roger.
- 5. Unknown tomb.
- 6. Bp. Beauchamp.
- 7. Robert Lord Hungerford.
- 8. Lord Stourton.
- 9. Bp. de la Wyley.
- 10. Longespée, the first Earl of Salisbury.
- 11. Sir John Cheney.
- 12. Walter, Lord Hungerford, and his wife.
- 14. Sir John de Montacute.
- 15. Unknown tomb.
- 16. Unknown tomb.
- 17. Longespée, the second Earl of Salisbury.
- 18. Boy Bishop.
- 19. Unknown tomb.
- 20. Bp. Blythe.
- 21. Bp. Woodville.
- 22. Staircase leading to tower.
- 23. Bp. Mitford.
- 24. Doorway to Cloisters and Chapter-house.
- 25. Bp. Audley's Chantry.
- 26. Lord Hungerford's Chantry.
- 27. Sir Thomas Gorges.
- 28. Bp. Roger de Mortival.
- 29. Bp. Bingham.
- 30. Bp. Poore.
- 31. Brass of Bp. Wyvill.
- 32. Edward, Earl of Hertford.
- 33. William Wilton.
- 34. Bp. William of York.
- 35. Bp. Giles of Bridport.
- 36. Doorway to Muniment-room.
- 37. Sir Richard Mompesson.
- 38. Bp. Hamilton.
- 39. Altar.
- 40. Bp. Osmund.

scale 100 feet to inch (1710)

GROUND PLAN OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

is attributed by Godwin, who gives a Latin version of it, to a certain Daniel Rogers :—

“ As many days as in one year there be,
 So many windows in this church you see.
 As many marble pillars here appear
 As there are hours through the fleeting
 year.
 As many gates as moons one here does
 view,
 Strange tale to tell, yet not more strange
 than true.”

The usual alterations took place in Salisbury Cathedral at the Reformation, when much of the painted glass is said to have been removed by Bishop Jewell. Although desolate and abandoned, it escaped material profanation during the Civil War; and workmen were even employed to keep it in repair, replying, says Dr. Pope (‘ Life of Bishop Ward ’), when questioned by whom they were sent, —“ Those who employ us will pay us; trouble not yourselves to enquire; whoever they are they do not desire to have their names known.” On the Restoration, a report of the general condition of the cathedral was supplied by Sir Christopher Wren, and certain additions for the strengthening of the spire were made at his recommendation. The great work of destruction was reserved for a later period, and for more competent hands. Under Bishop Barrington (1782—1791) the architect James Wyatt was, unhappily, let loose upon Salisbury. He swept away screens, chapels, and porches; desecrated and destroyed the tombs of warriors and prelates; obliterated ancient paintings; flung stained glass by cartloads into the city ditch; and levelled with the ground the campanile—of the same date as the cathedral itself—which stood on the N. side of the churchyard. “ It was multangular in form, surmounted by a leaden spire with walls and buttresses similar to the chapter-house and cloisters, and a single pillar of Purbeck marble in the centre, supporting the bells and spire with its leaden covering.”—

His operations, which at the time were pronounced “ tasteful, effective, and judicious,” will be noticed more at length in their proper places.

The *Close*, within which the cathedral stands, was first surrounded with an embattled wall in the reign of Edward III., who in 1326 granted a licence for this purpose, and in 1331 issued letters patent to the bishop and canons empowering them to remove for the building of the Close wall and of the tower, the walls of the cathedral of Old Sarum, which was still standing. A large number of carved bosses of Norman date, supposed with reason to be fragments of this cathedral, may still be seen over the N. gate of the Close, and in the wall S. of that leading into St. Anne’s Street.

The Close has 4 gateways: *Harnham Gate* to the South; *St. Anne’s* to the N.E., with a chapel over it; the *Cemetery Gate* at the end of the *High Street*, ornamented with a statue of James I. by Beckwith, on the S. front; and *Bishop’s Gate* fronting Exeter Street.

Passing into the Close, the visitor finds himself confronted by the great cathedral, rising grey and time-honoured from the broad lawn of greensward that encircles it, and well contrasted by groups of fine trees, here as ever increasing the effect of noble architecture. The position is unusually clear and open; “ Nor can the most curious, not to say cavilling, eye,” says old Fuller, “ desire anything which is wanting in this edifice, except possibly an ascent,—seeing such who address themselves hither for their devotions can hardly say with David, ‘ I will go up into the house of the Lord.’ ” The best point of view is from the north-east, which Rickman has pronounced “ the best general view of a cathedral to be had in England, displaying the various portions of this interesting building to the greatest advantage.” “ The bold breaking of the outline by the

two transepts, instead of cutting it up by buttresses and pinnacles," to which the N. porch may be added, "is a master-stroke of art; and the noble central tower, which, though erected at a later age, was evidently intended from the first, crowns the whole composition with singular beauty."—*Fergusson*.

The point to which the attention of the stranger is at once drawn is, of course, the grand peculiarity of Salisbury, the "silent finger" of its *spire*. This is the loftiest in England, rising 404 feet above the pavement (Chichester, said, but very doubtfully, to have been built in imitation of it, is 277 feet in height; Norwich, 313 feet), and its summit is 48 feet above the top of St. Paul's. The central spire of Amiens, a mere *flèche* (422 feet) is 22 feet higher than Salisbury; and that of Strasburg (468 feet), the highest in the world, 68 feet. It may well be doubted, however, whether in general effect and in grace of proportion Salisbury should not occupy the first place.

The Early English portion terminates with the first story, about eight feet above the roof; the two additional stories and the spire above them date, as has already been stated, from the reign of Edward III. At each angle of the tower is an octagonal stair-turret, crowned with a small crocketed spire. The great spire, itself octagonal, rises from between four richly-decorated pinnacles. Its walls are two feet in thickness from the bottom to a height of twenty feet; from thence to the summit their thickness is only nine inches. The spire is filled with a remarkable frame of timber-work, which served as a scaffold during its erection. Whilst making some repairs in 1762, the workmen found a cavity on the south side of the capstone, in which was a leaden box, enclosing a second of wood which contained a piece of much decayed silk or fine linen, no doubt a relic (possibly of the Vir-

gin to whom the cathedral is dedicated) placed there in order to avert lightning and tempest.

Owing to a settlement in the two western tower-piers, the spire, as a plumb-line dropped from the vane indicates, is twenty-three inches out of the perpendicular. Great fears were in consequence entertained at one time for the safety of the building, but no further movement has been detected for the last two centuries, and it has been recently strengthened by the late Sir Gilbert Scott.

The *West Front*, recently restored, is not a little striking. It was no doubt the portion of the cathedral last completed, as is especially indicated by the occurrence among its mouldings of the ball-flower, characteristic for the most part, of the Decorated style of the 14th cent. The front itself consists of a central compartment, rising into a steep gable, and flanked by a screen wall, the angles of which are supported by square buttress towers, capped by small spires. In the central compartment is a triple porch with canopies, and the western window, a triplet divided by slender clustered columns. The entire front is divided into five stories by its mouldings, and the canopies of its blind arcades originally sheltered a host of more than a hundred statues, most of which are being restored to their places. Our Lord in Majesty fills the apex of the gable. Below the sculptures are ranged in five tiers, embodying the divisions of the "*Te Deum laudamus*." (1) Angels; (2) O. T. patriarchs and prophets; (3) N. T. apostles and evangelists; (4) Doctors of the Church—virgins and martyrs; (5) Bishops and monarchs of the Ch. of England, connected with Salisbury. In the niches of the W. portal are statues of the B.V.M. with angels, and above the doorway the Virgin and Child. The *Consecration Crosses*, on different parts of

the exterior, are large and numerous. The *North Porch*, which serves as the usual entrance to the cathedral, recently restored by his widow in memory of Dean Hamilton, under the late Mr. G. E. Street's care, is lofty and fine, lined with a double arcade, and having a chamber in its upper story.

We now enter the *Nave*, and the visitor, if he has passed into it through the north porch, should proceed at once to the western extremity, for the sake of the general view, which, in spite of a certain coldness arising from want of stained glass, is exceedingly beautiful, the perfect uniformity of the architecture contributing not a little towards it. Even Wyatt's arrangement of the monuments, on the continuous plinth between each pier, monstrous in its principle, and altogether inaccurate in its execution, has a certain solemn grandeur. The nave itself is divided into ten bays by clustered columns of Purbeck marble. Above the nave-arches runs the *triforium*; and above again the clerestory windows (triple lancets) are placed, each in a bay of the vaulting. This, which is plain, without ridge-ribs, rises from clustered shafts with foliated capitals. The windows in the nave-aisles are double lancets.

A certain plainness of mouldings and deficiency of elaborate ornamentation may be observed throughout the cathedral. The plate-tracery of the triforium is characteristic of the first period of Early English architecture.

The height of the nave of Salisbury is 84 ft.; the width 82.

The greater part of the ancient stained glass throughout the cathedral which had survived Jewell's Protestant zeal, was removed and destroyed during Wyatt's 'restoration.' The scanty fragments that remain were collected and placed about 30 years since in their present situations, in the west triplet of the nave, in the

west window of each aisle of the nave, and in some other parts of the cathedral.

The *western triplet* is filled with glass of dates ranging from E.E. to cinquecento. The E. E. glass is of two periods, and consists of the remains of a Jesse window in the lower part and sides of the central light of the west triplet, c. 1240, and of some medallions removed from the windows of the chapter-house, not earlier than 1270, with other later portions.

The present arrangement of the monuments in the nave was made by Wyatt in 1789. Not only have they been displaced from their original positions, by which their historical interest has materially suffered, but the tombs on which the effigies are lying "are ignorantly made up of fragments evidently belonging to totally different erections, and to distinct periods from those to which the sculptured figures they support are attributable." Beginning at the W. end they are as follows:—

On the *S. side* (2) a flat coffin-shaped stone, said to have been brought from Old Sarum, and to have covered the remains of Bishop Herman (d. 1078). (3) (4) Immediately beyond are two slabs with figures in low relief, which are among the earliest examples of their class in England, their only rivals being the sepulchral slabs of two abbots (dates 1086 and 1172) in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey. They were brought from Old Sarum, and are supposed to represent Bishop Roger (d. 1139) and Bishop Joscelyn (d. 1184).

In the slab of Bishop Roger "the treatment of the drapery and other parts is very characteristic of the rudest era of sculpture, closely resembling, in many respects that will occur to the antiquary, what is called the Etruscan style."—*R. W.* The foliage and ornaments are of early E. E. character.

"The head of Bishop Joscelyn, though of very early work, is evidently a later addition to the original figure; the action of the right hand displays great feeling and considerable power of art."—*R. Westmacott*. On what appears to be the central ornament of his cope are the words "Affer opem: devenies in idem;" on the vertical edge of the slab is an inscription, commencing at the head of the figure.

(5) An altar-tomb of the 15th cent.—unknown. (6) An altar-tomb removed from the north transept aisle, and now containing the remains of Bishop Beauchamp (d. 1482), whose chantry was destroyed by Wyatt, and whose own tomb was 'misaid' during the operations of the same great destructive. (7) The effigy of Robert Lord Hungerford (d. 1459), who served in France under the Regent Duke of Bedford, and whose widow, Margaret, daughter of Lord Botreaux, founded the Hungerford Chapel, destroyed, like Beauchamp's, by Wyatt. The tomb on which the effigy rests was made up from portions of that chapel. The figure has a collar of SS. round the neck, and is in plate-armour,—an excellent example, showing an approach to that extreme splendour which was attained under Richard III. All the pieces of armour are beautifully ridged, the origin of the fluted style so prevalent during the reign of Henry VII.—(*Meyrick*.) The highly-ornamented sword (now lost) and dagger are suspended from a jewelled girdle. (8) Charles Lord Stourton, the original place of which was at the east end of the church, near the Somerset monument. The 3 apertures on each side, representing wells or fountains, are emblematic of the six sources of the Stour, which rise near Stourhead, the ancient seat of the Stourtons, and occur in their armorial bearings. Lord Stourton was hung March 6, 1556, in the market-place at Salisbury, for the

murder of the two Hartgills, father and son, for thwarting his design of extorting a bond not to marry again from his mother, the dowager Lady Stourton, over whom they had considerable influence.

The only concession made to Lord Stourton's noble birth was that he should be hung by a silken cord. A twisted wire with a noose, emblematic of the halter, was hanging over the tomb as a memorial of his crime as late as the year 1775.

(9) The next effigy, much mutilated, is that of Bishop De la Wyley (d. 1270). The base is made up of fragments of much later date. (10) Last on this side, on his tomb, is the fine and very interesting effigy of William Longespée (d. 1226), first Earl of Salisbury of that name, and natural son of Henry II. "The manly, warrior character of the figure is particularly striking, even in the recumbent attitude, while the turn of the head, and the graceful flow of lines in the right hand and arm, with the natural, heavy fall of the chain-armour on that side, exhibit a feeling of art which would not do discredit to a very advanced school."—*R. Westmacott*. The effigy is entirely in chain-mail, covering the mouth as well as the chin in an unusual manner. Over the mail is the short cyclas or surcoat. On the earl's shield are the six golden lioncels also borne by his grandfather, Geoffrey Count of Anjou. Longespée acquired the earldom of Salisbury through marriage with its heiress, the Countess Ela. The earl and his countess, as has already been mentioned, had assisted in laying the foundation-stones of the cathedral in which he was now interred. The slab and effigy of this monument are of stone, and the effigy shows the traces of the colour with which it was enriched. The base is of wood, and all has been richly painted and gilt. The wood within the arcade was covered with linen, on which was laid a white ground

for gilding or silvering. On the N. side, the linen, with its silvering, remains, and each arch has a different diaper pattern hatched with a point on the silver.

On the N. side of the nave, returning westward (11), opposite William Longespée, Sir John Cheyney (d. 1509). Round the neck, appended to a collar of SS, appears the portcullis-badger of Henry VII. Sir John, who was of extraordinary size and strength, was the standard-bearer of Henry of Richmond at the battle of Bosworth, and was unhorsed by Richard III. in that desperate final rush, when the King killed Sir William Brandon, and making a savage blow at Richmond himself, was overpowered by numbers, thrown from his horse, and killed. When the remains of Sir John Cheyney were removed by Wyatt from their original resting-place, the traditions of his great size were confirmed, the thigh-bone measuring 21 inches, nearly 3 inches longer than ordinary. (12) The tombs below Sir John's are those of Walter Lord Hungerford and his wife. The brasses have been removed. (13) [The memorial, if not the actual tomb, of Bp. Osmund (d. 1099), the sainted patron of Salisbury, has been removed to the Lady-chapel, its original place.] (14) The effigy of Sir John de Montacute (d. 1389), younger son of William, the first Montacute Earl of Salisbury. He was present at the battle of Cressy, and served in Scotland under Richard II. His effigy "affords a good specimen of highly-ornamented gauntlets, of a contrivance for the easier bending of the body, at the bottom of the breastplate, and of the elegant manner of twisting the hanging sword-belt, pendent from the military girdle, round the upper part of the sword." —*Meyrick*. The two next altar-tombs (15, 16) are unappropriated. (17) The effigy of the *second* Longespée, Earl of Salisbury (d. 1250), son of Earl William, already noticed. It is cross-

legged; and the chain-armour has elbow-plates, and "poleyns," or small plates of mail at the knees. Earl William II. was twice a crusader; in 1240, returning in 1242; and again in 1249, when he joined St. Louis of France at Damietta. Early in the following year he accompanied a body of Christians, led by the brother of Louis, towards Cairo. They were surprised and surrounded by the Saracens; and Longespée, with his standard-bearer, fell fighting valiantly. His remains were at length delivered to the Christians, who deposited them in the Church of the Holy Cross, at Acre. This monument is said to have been raised by his mother. (18) Beyond is a curious monument of E. E. character, usually called that of "the Boy Bishop," but more probably merely a diminutive episcopal effigy, placed here c. 1680, when it was found buried under the seating of the choir. [The boy, or choral bishop, was elected by the boys of the choir on St. Nicholas day (Dec. 6); and until Holy Innocents' day (Dec. 28), he sustained the dignity of bishop, the other choristers representing his prebendaries. A solemn service, with a procession, was performed by the children on the eve of Innocents' day. The custom, which was not confined to Salisbury, was forbidden by Henry VIII., and finally abolished by Elizabeth.] (19) The last tomb on this side—an ancient coffin-shaped sarcophagus—is that of some unknown personage. Against the west wall of the nave, on either side of the entrance, are—north, a monument for Dr. Turberville, an oculist of Salisbury, died 1696; and south, a monument of Rysbrack for Thomas, Lord Wyndham, died 1745.

From the nave we enter the *North Transept*, passing under the wide Perp. arch, which (as at Canterbury and Wells), was inserted early in the 15th centy. by way of counter-thrust against the weight of the central

tower, under which the central piers had already given way to some extent, as will be at once perceived. The triforium and clerestory of the nave are carried round the transept; the triforium, on the N. side, being replaced by two-light windows of very elegant character. The clerestory window above, with its slender pilasters and graceful flow of lines, deserves especial notice. Each transept has an eastern aisle divided by clustered piers into three chapels. The screens which formerly enclosed them were swept away by Wyatt.

The *monuments* to be noticed in this transept are three by Flaxman,—the most important to William Benson Earle, the bas-relief on which represents the Good Samaritan. The other two are to Walter and William Long. “There is nothing extraordinary in the design, but the workmanship is good, and there is real feeling in the heads.”—*Waagen*. The monument to James Harris, author of ‘Hermes,’ is by *Bacon*; that to his son, the first Earl of Malmesbury, by *Chantrey*. The seated figure of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the historian of Wiltshire, is the work of *Lucas*, a native of Salisbury. Remark also, against the W. wall of the transept, a memorial of *John Britton*, one of the fathers of modern archæology, placed here, in the cathedral of his native county, by the Royal Institute of British Architects, in 1857. Against the N. wall is the mutilated effigy of a bishop, probably Bp. Blyth, d. 1499 (20); and partly in the eastern aisle is a large tomb with canopy, assigned to Bp. Woodville, d. 1484 (21).

A staircase in the angle of the transept leads upward to the *tower*, which may be ascended by staircases in each of its corner turrets. The top of the tower is called the “Eight Doors,” from the double doors on each side, through which the visitor will obtain magnificent views over the town and surrounding country.

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*, 1882.]

The first story of the tower is of E. E. date, and originally formed a lantern, open to the nave. It is surrounded by an arcade of slender pilasters. The ascent of the *spire*—which is a formidable undertaking—is made internally by a series of slender ladders as far as a little door about 40 ft. below the vane; and from that point the adventurous climber has to scale the outside by means of hooks attached to the walls. The interior is filled with a timber frame, consisting of a central piece with arms and braces. This entire frame, the arms of which were made to support floors which served as scaffolds whilst the spire was building, is hung to the capstone of the spire by iron cross bars, and by the iron standard of the vane, which is fixed to the upper part of the central piece. Great additional strength is thus given to the whole shell of the spire, and especially to its summit. The arms and braces are not mortised into the central piece, but are so fitted as to be removed at pleasure, for the sake of easy repair.

The *South Transept* is in all respects a counterpart of the north. The windows of the S. end of this transept are filled with grisaille glass; that in the two uppermost lights being E. E. The rest contain glass by Bell, in memory of the late Dean Hamilton. The principal monuments in this transept are, between the S. choir-aisle and that of the transept,—the very fine altar-tomb, with effigy, of Bishop Mitford, d. 1407 (23). The panels and arches of the tomb deserve notice; and the effigy itself, of white marble, is unusually solemn and impressive. In the hollow moulding of the canopy are birds bearing scrolls, with the inscription, “Honor Deo et gloria.” Against the E. wall of the aisle is a small quatrefoil in Caen stone, enclosing a floriated cross, designed by *Pugin*, for Lieut. Wm. Fisher, killed at Moodkee, Dec. 18,

1845. In the middle chapel is a very elaborate altar-tomb, within an open arcade, richly ornamented with mosaics and coloured marbles, designed by Street to Major Jacob, d. 1862, erected by the Wilts Rifle Volunteers; and near the S.E. angle, a modern memorial of unusual character, for Bp. Fisher, tutor of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, d. 1825, and buried at Windsor. It consists of an altar-tomb beneath a canopy, on which repose the pastoral staff, mitre and Bible. Against the S. wall is the monument of Edward Poore, d. 1780, and his wife; and on the W. wall, the monument with bust of Lord Chief Justice Hyde, Lord Clarendon's first cousin, d. 1665. At the S.W. angle is a good double piscina. A door at the S.W. angle of this transept leads into the Cloisters and Chapter-house (see *post*).

Returning to the central tower-arches (the lierne vault above which is Perp.), we enter the *Choir*, which has been restored as a memorial to the late Bp., W. K. Hamilton, and reopened in 1876. The *organ-screen*, formed of fragments from the Hungerford and Beauchamp chapels, destroyed by Wyatt, has given place to a very elaborately-worked, light, open screen of brass, by Skidmore, terminating in a lofty cross, the gift of Mrs. Sidney Lear. The *organ*, built by Green, of Isleworth, the gift of George III. in the character of a "Berkshire gentleman" (until 1836, Berkshire formed part of the diocese of Salisbury), has been removed to St. Thomas's church, and a very large instrument by Willis, of immense power and great sweetness of tone, the gift of Miss Chafyn Grove, has been erected, half on the N. and half on the S. side of the second bay of the choir. The bellows and the machinery for working them (a gas engine) encumber the chapels of the N. transepts.

The architecture of the *Choir*,—piers, triforium, and clerestory,—

differs in no respect from that of the nave. Above the 3 arches at the eastern end, the triforium, instead of its ordinary grouping, is formed by 5 small arches with cinquefoil headings. Above is a triplet window, with a blind paneling on either side. The glass in this window, by Pearson after a design by Mortimer, the subject of which is the elevation of the brazen serpent, was given by the Earl of Radnor in 1781, and is not without merit. "The colouring is lively, and the picture has a certain degree of brilliancy."—*C. Winston*.

The marble and stone work of the choir has been restored, and the exterior of the chantry chapel of Bishop Audley has been made good; the floor of the choir being lowered 10 in. to its original level. The pavement of the choir is a combination of encaustic tiles, copied from old tiles found in the cathedral, and of Purbeck and foreign marbles. The steps are placed in the old positions as indicated by the remains of the paving and by the references to them in the Sarum Office. The canopied tombs of Bp. Bingham, N., and of Bp. Yorke, S., which had been hidden by wooden screens, have been laid open and repaired. The paintings on the ceiling of the choir, which were plainly discernible through Wyatt's colour-wash, have been carefully and skilfully reproduced by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. These paintings were executed in the latter part of the 13th century, shortly after the consecration of the cathedral. The design consists of a "Majesty," painted in a vesica, or oval, over the centre of the small transept. Our Lord is surrounded by the four Evangelists and the twelve Apostles. To the west each section of the groining contains 8 medallions, representing patriarchs and prophets, each bearing a scroll with a Messianic prophecy. The series ends with John the Baptist

at the S.W. corner. To the eastward of the figure of the Saviour are 12 medallions representing the seasons of the year.

The E. end of the choir and the W. bay on the S. side have had their original colouring restored. But the experiment can hardly be called encouraging.

The *stalls* and bishop's shrine, dating from the episcopate of Bishop *Hume* (1766—1782), remodelled by Wyatt, have been replaced by stalls in carved oak, the upper row being mostly original, the rest from the designs of Sir G. G. Scott. The absence of canopies gives a singularly naked aspect to the choir. The new *Bishop's Throne* was also designed by Scott.

The altar, which had been removed by Wyatt to the extreme end of the Lady-chapel, has been replaced in its old position, and a magnificent reredos erected by Earl Beauchamp in memory of Bp. Beauchamp, d. 1482. The 3 arches behind the reredos have been screened with light iron grilles. The pulpit is E. E., of Tisbury stone and Purbeck marble.

Opposite each other, in the second bay of the choir counting from the E., are the chapels of (25) Bp. Audley, and of (26) Walter Lord Hungerford, the latter removed in 1778 by the Earl of Radnor, who claimed descent from the Hungerford family. *Bp. Audley's chantry* (d. 1524) is one of the few monuments occupying their original places in the cathedral. It is a very fine example of late Perp. The arms and initials of the founder appear on the shields projecting from the cornice, and supporting the episcopal mitre. The interior, which retains much bright colouring, has a rich fan-vault. The *Hungerford Chapel* (c. 1429) opposite, interesting as an example of early ironwork, has suffered more serious degradation, in spite of its restoration and blazoned shields. It has been con-

verted into a pew for the Radnor family, for which purpose it was removed from its proper situation in the nave. The upper part is entirely of iron, with the projections gilt. The arms on the different compartments of the base are those of the founder and his two wives. On the ceiling within are a series of bearings, illustrating the descent of Lord Radnor from the Hungerfords. Iron chapels, such as the present, are rare, especially of so early a date. The finest and most elaborate example is the chantry of Edward IV. (died 1483), in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

On the N. side of the altar is the effigy, attributed to Bishop Poore, under a canopy, restored to its original place from the N.E. transept, to which it had been removed by Wyatt. The effigy, in many respects a striking one, may very well be of his period. Over the centre of the arch is an angel supporting the circle and crescent of the sun and moon. The leafed heading of the bishop's staff is unusually graceful.

Opposite, on the S. side, beneath a canopy designed by Mr. J. O. Scott, is a white marble effigy of Bishop Hamilton (d. 1854), modelled by the Rev. Hon. Bertram Bouverie, son of Lord Radnor. The window above it is to the memory of Lady Radnor.

From the choir we pass into the low *eastern aisle* behind it. This aisle is narrower and of less importance than the "procession paths" of either Winchester or Exeter; but the slender clustered shafts which separate it from the Lady-chapel give it an unusual grace and beauty. The height of each shaft is 30 ft., and the diameter little more than 10 inches. The *Lady-chapel* is divided by similar clusters and by single shafts, into a central and two side-aisles. The slender, and almost reed-like columns assist in carrying the vault. At the E. end is a triple

lancet, with an additional light on either side; the intervening space being occupied by an exterior buttress. All five lights have been filled with stained glass in commemoration of Dean Lear, representing the principal events in the life of our Saviour. The painting of the vaulted roof has been restored by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, and new pavement laid down, and the Purbeck marble shafts cleansed and restored. The *altar-piece*, below the window, is a curious composition. The three central niches formed the original altar-piece of the Beauchamp Chapel (date 1481), whilst those on either side were constructed from the entrances to that and to the Hungerford Chapel (date 1470), both of which were destroyed by Wyatt. Both were rich and highly decorated, as their remains fully prove. The canopies of the niches under the side-windows of the Lady-chapel were formed by a cornice from the Beauchamp chantry. In this chapel, after his canonization in 1456, stood the magnificent shrine of St. Osmund, whose tomb in the nave has already been noticed.

On the N. side of the altar, but without any memorial or inscription, are interred six Earls and four Countesses of Pembroke, the first laid here having been Earl Henry, d. 1601; his countess, d. 1621,

"The glory of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother,"

also lies here, unrecorded like the rest. Her epitaph is written on pages more enduring than brass or marble, in the 'Arcadia,' and in Ben Jonson's (or Browne's) verses. Her son, Earl William, d. 1630, and Earl Philip, d. 1669—the unworthy original of the wonderful picture at Wilton—also repose here.

At the E. end of the *North Choir Aisle* is the monument of Sir Thomas Gorges (27), of Longford Castle, and of his widow, Helena Snachen-

berg, a fine example of "the very worst taste of design." Four twisted pillars support the entablature with its ornaments,—obelisks, globes, spheres, and the cardinal virtues. The effigies of the knight and his lady lie beneath this "heavy load." The latter accompanied the Princess Cecilia of Sweden to England, where she became one of Queen Elizabeth's maids of honour, and married, first the Marquis of Northampton, and afterwards Sir Thomas Gorges. The monument was erected in the year of her death by her son, Edward Lord Gorges, Baron of Dundalk. The monumental slab of Bp. Osmund (d. 1099), removed from the nave, to which Wyatt had transferred it, is now placed on the plinth in the last bay Eastwards. Under an arch in the north wall of this aisle is a tomb with a cross fleury in relief, assigned to Bp. *Roger de Mortival* (28), d. 1227. The stone slab on which it is set is said to have covered the remains of Bp. *Longespée*, d. 1396, son of the second Earl William Longespée. In front of this arch stands a huge cope box. In the same aisle, at the back of the choir, occupying the bay W. of Audley Chapel, is the tomb assigned—but questionably—to Bp. *Bingham* (29), d. 1246. The existing structure seems of later date. The crockets of the cinquefoiled arch are enriched with figures of angels; and from the centre rises a lofty tabernacle in 3 stories. The slab was inlaid with a brass, which has disappeared.

The N. E. *Transept* or the Chapel of the Close, was till recently used for early service. Across the entrance of this and the opposite S. transept inverted strainer-arches, similar to those at Wells, have been introduced to resist the eastward thrust of the spire.

Immediately within the entrance to the transept is the very curious

brass (removed from the nave) of (31) Bp. Wyvil (d. 1375). This bishop recovered for the see Sherborne Castle, which King Stephen had seized from Bishop Roger. It had been granted by Edward III. to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, against whom the bishop brought a writ of right. The disputants agreed to abide by the trial by battle, and both produced their champions in the lists. But the matter was compromised, the earl ceding the castle on payment of 2500 marks. The brass represents the contested castle, with keep and portcullis. At the door of the first ward appears the bishop with mitre and crosier, bestowing the episcopal benediction on his champion, who stands at the gate of the outer ward in a close-fitting "Jack," with a battle-axe in his right hand and a shield in his left. The rabbits and hares before the castle gate refer to the chase of Bishop's Bere within Windsor Forest, a grant or restitution of which was also procured by Bishop Wyvil.

The gravestone of Bishop Jewel (d. 1571), from which a small brass has been removed, and that of Bishop Gheast (d. 1576), still retaining his effigy, lie near the great brass of Bishop Wyvil. Both were removed from the choir.

A lavatory, of early Perp. character, which formerly stood near the vestry, and is now placed in this transept, should also be remarked; also the exquisitely beautiful screen-work, removed by Wyatt from the entrance of the choir on the W. wall. The sculptured heads and foliage are of the most delicately beautiful design and execution.

Returning through the E. aisle we enter the S. *choir-aisle*, at the E. end of which is the stately though tasteless monument (partly blocking the windows) of the unfortunate Edward Earl of Hertford (d. 1621), and of his still more unfortunate Countess, the Lady Catherine Grey, who died

in 1563, nearly sixty years before him. The Earl of Hertford, was long imprisoned by Elizabeth for his private marriage with the sister of Lady Jane Grey, who had certain claims to the royal succession. His wife, after her release from the Tower, was separated from her husband, and died in the following year. "It is worth while to read the epitaph on his (Lord Hertford's) monument, an affecting testimony to the purity and faithfulness of an attachment rendered still more sacred by misfortune and time. Quo desiderio veteres revocavit amores."* Charles Duke of Somerset (the "proud" duke) and his wife, the famous heiress of the Percys, are also interred here; and the monument, which is gilt and painted, was restored by the late Duke of Northumberland.

In the S.E. angle of this aisle is the altar-tomb (formerly assigned to Bishop Wickhampton) of (33) Wm. Wilton, Chancellor of Sarum, 1506–1523. The shields on the cornice bear the device of Henry VIII. (a rose) and that of Catherine of Aragon (a pomegranate); the arms of Bishop Audley, Wilton's patron; and of Abingdon Abbey, to which he may have been formerly attached. Other shields display his rebus, the letters W. I. L. on a label, and a *ton* or barrel. Immediately W. of the Hungerford chantry is a tomb from which the brass has been removed, (34) ascribed, but most improbably, to Bishop William of York (d. 1267). The very broad ogee canopy, with a heavy finial, is certainly of much later date.

The monument (35) opposite, between the choir-aisle and the eastern aisle of the transept, is one of the most important and interesting in the cathedral. It is that of Bishop Giles de Bridport (d. 1262), during whose episcopate the cathedral was

* Hallam, 'Const. Hist. Eng.,' chap ii.

completed and dedicated. All the details of this remarkable monument deserve the most careful examination. The effigy, at the head of which are small figures of censuring angels, lies beneath a canopy, supported, north and south, by two open arches, with quatrefoils in the heads. Each arch is subdivided by a central pilaster, and springs from clustered shafts, detached. A triangular hood-moulding, with crockets and finials of leafage, projects above each arch ; and between and beyond the arches pilasters rise to the top of the canopy, supporting finials of very excellent design. "The sculptures of this monument are indeed remarkable productions for the time of their execution, and in many respects are well worthy the study and imitation of artists of our own day."—*R. Westmacott*. The sculptures both here and in the chapter-house must have been executed by artists who were contemporary with Niccola Pisano (born circ. 1200, d. 1276).

The S.E. *transept* contains memorial windows of stained glass for the officers and men of the 62nd or Wiltshire Regiment, who fell during the campaign of the Sutlej, 1845–46, and for those of the same regiment who fell in the Crimea. Both windows were the gift of surviving comrades. Here is also a tablet for Bowles the poet (a canon of Salisbury), d. 1850 ; and two small ones, erected by him for Hooker and Chillingworth, both prebendaries of this cathedral. Remark also the monuments of Bishop Burgess (d. 1837), and of Bishop Seth Ward (d. 1689). On the floor is the gravestone of Dean Young, father of the poet.

On the W. wall is a memorial for Dean Clarke (d. 1757), the friend of Newton.

The *muniment room*, which is entered from this transept, is a dimly-lighted octagon, the oaken

roof of which is supported by a central column of wood. In the chests and presses contained in this room are deposited a contemporaneous copy of Magna Charta, supposed to be the transcript committed to the care of William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, as one of the original witnesses, and the various charters and other documents connected with the cathedral and its property, in admirable preservation and order.

In the S. *choir-aisle*, which we now re-enter, are the monuments of Bishop Davenant (d. 1641) ; of the turncoat Bishop Salcot, or Capon (d. 1557) ; and of (37) Sir Richard Mompesson and his wife (d. 1627). This last is a good example of the time. The grapes and vine-leaves which cluster about the black marble pillars are coloured green and gold.

We may now return to the S.W. transept and pass into the cloisters, above the E. walk of which is the *library*, a long room, built by Bishop Jewel, 1559–1571, and fitted up by Bp. Gheste 1571–1576. The number of printed books is about 5000, and 130 manuscript volumes are also preserved here, many of which are of considerable importance. The earliest is the Gregorian Liturgy, with an A.-Saxon version. The pen-drawings of the capital letters are remarkable.

The *Cloisters* themselves, which are of later date, and exhibit a more developed style than the rest of the cathedral, are among the finest in England ; and nothing can be more beautiful than the contrast of their long grey arcades and graceful windows with the greensward of the cloister-garth, or "Paradise," the "layers of shade" of the dusky cedars in its centre, and the patch of bright blue sky above. The length of each side is 181 feet. The arrangement of the windows, with their large six-foiled openings above, and

the double arches below, again subdivided by a slender column, is very striking. The upper part, above the mullions, was originally glazed, and fragments of the stained glass still remain. A blind arcade fills the opposite side, between each bay of the vaulting, which, like that within the cathedral, has no ridge-ribs. The clustered columns at the angles of the cloisters have enriched capitals, the rest are simply moulded. The building of the cloisters must have immediately followed that of the cathedral, since the chapter-house, which opens from them, and is perhaps of slightly later character, dates early in the reign of Edward I., many of whose pennies, during the restoration, were found in those parts of the foundations which required under-pinning. The cloisters were restored by Bishop Denison, who d. 1854, and is buried, with his first wife, in the central enclosure. The original Purbeck shafts were then replaced by common stone, "to the no small detriment of the general effect."

In the centre of the E. walk of the cloisters is the entrance to the *Chapter-house*, dating early in the reign of Edward I. It is "a noble octagonal building, having an internal diameter of about fifty-eight feet. Each side is occupied by a large window of four lights, with an arcade of seven bays below it; the vaulting-ribs fall upon a central pillar, and their filling-in is composed of the same light concrete found throughout the cathedral. Whether there was or was not anciently a high-pointed roof remains a disputed point. All we know is, that the present roof is modern, and that the poinçon has evidently formed part of an older roof contemporary with the building. The great defect of the structure is its want of boldness; externally the buttresses do not project far enough, and internally the small columns at the angles look flat, and resemble reeds. Alto-

gether, the impression is left on the spectator that the architect, whoever he might have been, was by no means up to the mark of the designers of Westminster, Canterbury, or Wells." — *W. Burges*. A plinth of stone, supporting 42 niches for as many prebendaries, runs round below the windows; and at the east end is a raised seat, divided into seven compartments, for the bishop and his principal dignitaries. The arcade, on this side alone, has double shafts. The restoration of the entire building, which had fallen dangerously out of repair, was commenced soon after the death, and as a memorial of, Bishop Denison, under the superintendence of Mr. Clutton; and was reopened with a solemn service, July 1856. The Purbeck shafts have been cleaned and polished; the floor has been laid with Minton's encaustic tiles; the walls of the arcade have also been diapered (though through a much-to-be-regretted defect in the preparation of the colouring much of the ornamentation has peeled off); the colouring and gilding of the roof has been restored; the windows have been newly glazed; and, most important of all, the sculptures, which had been much mutilated, have been carefully restored, and are resplendent in all the glories of polychrome.

These *sculptures* fill the voussoirs of the arch in the vestibule, and the spandrels of the arcade below the windows in the chapter-house itself, and are among the most interesting remains of early Gothic art which exist either in England or on the Continent. The doorway forming the entrance to the chapter-house from the cloister is of great beauty. The niche in the centre of the arch is at present empty, and it is impossible to determine the subject of the sculpture with which it was filled. (A coronation of the Virgin, as "*Mater justitiæ, misericordiæ, caritatis*," and other virtues, has been suggested.)

In the voussoirs are fourteen small niches, containing figures of the different virtues trampling on the vices. This subject, partly owing to the popularity of the *Psychomachia* of Prudentius, was an especial favourite throughout the middle ages, and almost every large church had its pictured or sculptured virtues and vices. "Canterbury has them incised on the stone historiatiated pavement round the shrine of Becket; Chartres has them sculptured on the west portal of the N. transept, but without the vices." — *W. Burges*. These at Salisbury are not very readily interpreted.

Within the chapter-house, starting from the quatrefoil above the entrance, as a centre, "run first a series of heads, representing the various conditions of life at the time the edifice was constructed. Thus we see the shaven monk, the in and out-door costume of the fine lady, the nun, the merchant, the sailor, the countryman, and many others. Then, above these, and filling in the spandrils of the arcade running below the windows, is the history of man, from the Creation to the delivery of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. It will thus be perceived that the series begins and ends with the ministrations of our Lord."

The subjects in the arcades are as follows:—

West arcade (left of doorway).—1. God creates the light. 2. Creation of the firmament.

North-west arcade.—1. Creation of the trees. 2. Creation of sun and moon. 3. Creation of fishes and birds. 4. Creation of beasts, and of Adam and Eve. 5. God rests on the seventh day; He is blessing the earth. 6. God shows Adam the tree of good and evil. 7. Adam and Eve eating of the fruit of the tree. 8. Adam and Eve hide themselves.

North arcade.—1. The Expulsion. Remark the door of Paradise—yellow,

with black foliated hinges. 2. Adam working a spade. Eve suckling Cain. 3. Sacrifice of Cain and Abel. 4. Murder of Abel. 5. God sentences Cain. Abel's blood crying from the earth is represented by Abel buried in it up to his arm-pits, praying. 6. God commands Noah to build the ark. He is at work with an auger. The ark has the figure-head of a dog. 7. Noah enters the ark at one end; at the other he receives the dove with the olive-branch. The raven is seen feeding on the dead bodies. 8. Noah prunes his vineyard; the vines are trained on a trellis in the Italian fashion.

North-east arcade.—1. The drunkenness of Noah. 2. The building of the tower of Babel. An inclined plane with pieces across is used instead of a ladder. 3. Abraham implores the three angels to stay with him. He is on one knee, and the angels are in albs with the amice. 4. Abraham waits on the angels at table. One of them has his hand on a fish. 5. Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. 6. Lot's departure. His wife is turned into a pillar of salt. 7. Abraham leading the ass, with Isaac on its back. 8. Abraham, about to slay his son, is stayed by the angel.

East arcade.—1. Blessing of Jacob. Rebecca listening at the door. 2. Blessing of Esau. 3. Rebecca sends Jacob to Padan Aram. 4. Jacob takes the top off the well to give water to Rachel's cattle. One beast is a camel. 5. Rachel brings Jacob to her father. 6. Jacob talks with the angel. Two others are near. 7. The angel touches Jacob on the thigh with a stick. 8. Meeting of Esau and Jacob. Leah and Rachel behind with the sheep.

South-east arcade.—1. Joseph's dream. 2. Joseph tells his dream to his father, mother, and brothers. 3. (1) Joseph seized by one of his

brothers. (2) He is put into the well. (3) A kid has its throat cut over Joseph's garment. 4. (1) Joseph is sold to the seneschal of the King of Egypt. (This variation from the biblical narrative occurs also in the magnificent Cottonian MS. known as Queen Mary's Psalter.) (2) The seneschal on horseback with Joseph behind him. 5. The brothers bring back the coat. 6. The seneschal presents Joseph to Pharaoh, who gives a stick into his hand. 7. Temptation of Joseph by Pharaoh's queen, not, as in the Bible, by Potiphar's wife. 8. Joseph accused.

South arcade.—1. Joseph is put in prison. 2. (1) The baker is hung. (2) The butler offers the cup to Pharaoh. 3. Pharaoh's dream. 4. Pharaoh consults a magician (?). 5. (1) Joseph delivered from prison; (2) kneels before Pharaoh. 6. Joseph seated, presiding over the threshing of the corn. A man throws straw into the Nile. In the MS. Joseph communicates the intelligence that there is corn in Egypt by throwing straw into the river, which thus reaches his father, "com il est en soun chastel." 7. (1) Arrival of the brothers. (2) One of them on his knees before Pharaoh. 8. (1) Presentation of Benjamin to Joseph. (2) The cup is put into his sack.

South-west arcade.—1. The cup found in Benjamin's sack. 2. (1) The brethren on their knees before Joseph. (2) Joseph falls on Benjamin's neck. 3. Jacob and his family going into Egypt. They are on foot. 4. The brethren imploring Joseph not to take vengeance on them after Jacob's death. 5. The subject very doubtful. It possibly represents Joseph embracing his family and assuring them of his protection. 6. Moses and the burning bush. 7. Passage of the Red Sea. 8. Destruction of Pharaoh and his host. Armed figures with shields

(one of which is kite-shaped) and banners in a carriage.

West arcade (right of doorway):—

1. Moses strikes the rock. 2. God gives the Law to Moses.

An ancient table, which stands in the chapter-house, and is apparently of the early Dec. period, should be noticed. It has been carefully restored.

A door from the cloisters opens into the grounds of the *Episcopal Palace*, a very long, irregular, but picturesque pile of building, the chief feature of which is the gateway tower, with its staircase-turret and spirelet, at the N.E. extremity, now disused. The palace is now entered through the original dining-hall, of late Perp. date, over which is the chapel of the same style, with some Jacobean woodwork, and a very beautiful alabaster altar-piece, erected as a memorial of the late Rev. Sidney Lear. The drawing-room at the W. end is a very beautiful and well-proportioned room of the last cent., hung with portraits of the bishops since the Restoration, chiefly copies. Those of Hyde, Burnet, Sherlock, Barrington, and Douglas, are originals. Beneath the living apartments is a range of E.E. vaulted cellarage now divided by cross-walls. The Palace was sold by the Puritans to one Van Ling, a Dutch tailor, who did much harm, converting part into an inn, and letting out the rest into tenements. A good view of the chapter-house is obtained from the lovely garden; and a very fine one of the cathedral itself, from a seat nearly opposite the gateway of the palace. The wonderful height of the tower and spire here shows to the greatest advantage. The palace was entirely remodelled by Bp. Barrington, who made the new entrance. Before this it is described as "one of the most gloomy mansions that can be imagined."

DIMENSIONS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

INSIDE.		Ft. In.	
Length of Nave, 229 ft. 6 in.;	} Total	449	0
Choir, 151 ft.; Lady			
Chapel, 68 ft. 6 in.			
,, Principal Transept . . .		203	10
,, Eastern Transept . . .		143	0
Width of Nave and Choir from pillar	} 34	3	
to pillar . . .			
,, Aisles from pillar to wall . .		17	6
,, Principal Transept, with Aisle		50	4
,, Eastern Transept, with Aisle		38	10
Height of Vaulting of the Nave, Choir,	} 81	0	
and Transepts . . .			
,, Aisles and Lady Chapel . .		39	9

OUTSIDE.		Ft. In.	
Extreme length		473	0
Length of Principal Transept . .		229	7
,, Eastern Transept		170	0
Width of West Front		111	4
,, Nave and Aisles		99	4
,, Principal Transept, with	} 81	4	
its Aisles			
,, Eastern Transept		65	0
Height from pavement to top of Spire		400	0
,, to top of parapet wall of Nave		87	0
,, ,, Aisles		44	0
,, ,, Roof		115	0
,, ,, West Front		130	0

The admeasurement round the exterior is 880 yards, or half a mile.

DIMENSIONS OF THE CHAPTER-HOUSE.

Out to out of the walls, diameter . .	78 feet.
In the clear withinside	58 "
Height of the vaulted ceiling	52 "

Several of the houses that surround the Close are of architectural or historical interest. That to the N. of St. Anne's Gate was the residence of James, or "Hermes" Harris, who used to give concerts and private theatricals in the chapel over the gate. The house to the S. of the gate was once occupied by Fielding the novelist, who wrote a large portion of his 'Tom Jones' in a mansion at the foot of Milford Hill. The residentiary house, formerly tenanted by Archdeacon Coxe, and afterwards by Canon Bowles, is a gabled building to the N.E. of the Close, with some remains of a Hall, and an E. E. chapel. Another residentiary house, at the N.W. corner, also preserves some portion of its chapel, and of a hall with a good roof which may be seen in the attics.

The *Deanery* is an irregular pile of

building containing ancient portions, opposite the W. front. The *King's House*, a very picturesque gabled mansion, originally built at the end of the 14th cent., the occasional residence of Royalty when journeying to the West, in which Richard III. is said to have sojourned at the time of Buckingham's execution, is now a Training College for Schoolmistresses. The *King's Wardrobe*, N. of Deanery, is a gabled house of great beauty, probably of the 15th cent., but containing much earlier portions. *Leydyn Hall* was once the residence of Abp. Chichele.

Near the N. entrance into the Close from High-street l. is the *Matrons' College*, a long low red-brick building in the fashion of the time, which was founded and endowed by Seth Ward, Bishop of Sarum, in 1682, for the maintenance of 10 widows of clergymen of the dioceses of Salisbury and Exeter.

The *Parish Churches* of Salisbury are not very remarkable.

St. Thomas's of Canterbury, founded by Bp. Bingham 1240, rebuilt in the 15th cent., and restored with new woodwork by Street, 1868, in the centre of the city, close to the Market Place, is a very good specimen of a rich Perp. Town Church, with light arcades, very wide aisles, roofs of carved timber, and panelling over the nave arches of which the clerestory windows are merely pierced portions. The S. aisle was the chantry of W. Swayne, whose name and arms appear on its ceiling. That of the N. aisle was repaired by Wm. Ludlow; butler to Hen. IV., V., VI., to whom is ascribed an altar-tomb in the chancel. The chancel is nearly as long as the nave, and has wide side-aisles and a clerestory. It is well fitted with oak seats and light parclose, and a stone reredos, with a relief of the Crucifixion. The former classical reredos and beautiful iron gates are preserved at

the end of the S. aisle. The organ is that given to the Cathedral by George III. as a "Berkshire gentleman." In the chancel are monuments to the Eyres of New House, and on the exterior wall, near the W. door, there is a rude bas-relief representing the reconciliation of Jacob and Esau, flanked by the Sacrifice of Abraham, and Jacob's Vision, carved by *Humphrey Beckwith*, a self-taught sculptor of this city, d. 1671, as a monument to himself. The tower projects to the south of the S. aisle, and contains a peal of bells transferred from the campanile of the Cathedral destroyed by Wyatt. In the Vestry is preserved a fine *antependium*.

St. Edmund's, at the N.E. extremity of the city, was originally a Collegiate Ch. founded for Secular Canons by Bp. De la Wyle in 1268, and dedicated to the recently canonized Edmund Rich, Abp. of Canterbury, who had been Treasurer of Salisbury. In 1653 the central tower fell, and so completely crushed the transept and nave, that it was found necessary to take them down. The choir was retained as sufficient for the wants of the parish, and forms the nave of the existing Ch., to which a chancel has been added, from Scott's designs, replacing one of debased character. The whole Ch. has been exceedingly well restored, and now, with light and elegant arcades, very broad aisles, and spacious and unencumbered area, is a model of a well-arranged town church. The painted glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell is good. The fall of the tower is commemorated by a tablet with a curious inscription above the W. door.

St. Edmund's Ch. is historically interesting from its connection with one of Abp. Laud's most notorious acts of arbitrary power. One Sherfield, then Recorder of the city, being offended with the pictures in some of the painted windows of the Ch.,

especially one of the Creation, in which the Deity was represented as an old man, broke them with his staff. For this act of Protestant zeal he was proceeded against in the Star Chamber 1632-3, and sentenced to be deprived of his office (this was not carried into effect), to pay 1000*l.* to the King (afterwards lowered to 500*l.*), and to make a public acknowledgment of his offence in the church.

St. Edmund's Schools (Woodyer, Arch.) form a picturesque group of buildings W. of the churchyard, which is overshadowed with avenues of limes. The chief schoolroom has a fine chimney-piece and wooden roof removed from an old hall on the site of the new market house.

To the east of the church is *St. Edmund's College*, a fine red-brick mansion of Queen Anne's style, adorned with leaden busts and stone dressings. It stands on the site of the residence of the College of secular priests attached to the ch., and maintains its old sacred character as a place of education for the sons of clergymen and others. In the grounds adjoining is preserved the cathedral porch, removed by Wyatt from the front of the N. transept. The spire and pinnacles are modern. The old fosse of the city crossed the site of the pleasure-ground, and in levelling it 1771, nearly 30 skeletons and rusty weapons were found. This is supposed to have been the scene of the fierce struggle in which Old Sarum was captured by the Saxons under Cynric, A.D. 552, and commemorated by an urn and Latin inscription.

St. Martin's, at the E. extremity of the city, removed, according to Leland, from the meadows near Harnham on account of "the moistness of the ground often overflowen," has a nave with gabled aisles, of equal height, and large Perp. windows. There is a tower and a spire at the W. end of the S. aisle. The chancel has some lancet windows,

and there is a Norman font and a brass eagle.

The *Roman Catholic Chapel*, dedicated to *St. Osmund*, was erected from the designs of the elder Pugin.

Harnham and *Fisherton*, though generally considered as suburbs of Salisbury, are much more ancient than the city itself. "Harnham was a pretty village ere Salisbury was builded," writes a chronicler; and *Fisherton* is mentioned in *Domesday* book as *Fiscartone*, held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Godric.

The old church of *Fisherton* has been pulled down and a new church erected not far from the Railway termini, in the style of the close of the 13th century.

The *Church of E. Harnham*, on the hill beyond the limits of the city S., was erected (1854) by Mr. Wyatt as a memorial to the late Dean Lear. It is a small but very beautiful structure in the Dec. style, with porch and bell-turret, and, in the interior, some good carving and painted glass.

West Harnham Ch. (restored 1872) contains a good Norman N. door; an E. E. chancel arch; an early font; and a singular squint in the chantry. The old part of *Harnham Mill*, *temp.* Hen. VII. or VIII., is very curious.

St. Nicholas' Hospital forms a very picturesque and interesting pile of building between the S. wall of the Close and *Harnham Bridge*. It was founded under the auspices of Bp. Poore 1227, by Ela, the widow of Wm. Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, for poor men and women. The buildings form 3 sides of a quadrangle: on the N. are the apartments for the brothers and sisters, 12 in number, showing much original work; the domestic offices to the E.; and the chapel and chaplain's apartments to the S. The chaplain's lodgings are formed out of the W. end of the original church. The west gable shows 2 lancets and a quatrefoiled circle. The eastern gable has also

2 lancets and an octofoil over. The whole is pure E. Eng., and has been well restored by Mr. Butterfield.

Harnham Bridge was built over the Nadder by Bp. Bingham, 1244. The central pier built on an islet supports the remains of an E. Eng. chapel of St. John the Baptist, now incorporated with a dwelling-house, and divided into 3 stories. The E. end still shows 3 lancets, and 4 may be traced on each side, and a piscina basin within. The chaplain's dormitory is on the opposite side of the bridge.

The *Market Place* is a large open square near the centre of the city. This was the scene of the execution of the Duke of Buckingham 1483, described above. At the S.E. corner stands the *Council House*, a heavy classical building, erected 1788-1794, from designs by Sir Robert Taylor, by Jacob Earl of Radnor, Recorder of the city. The *Council Room*, 75 ft. by 24 ft., contains the following portraits:—Charles I. and II.; Queen Anne, by *Dahl*; the Earl of Radnor, founder of the building; and the late William Hussey, Esq., M.P. (bearing in his hand the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons, which resolved that "the influence of the Crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished"), by *Hoppner*. The *Grand Jury Room* also contains some good original portraits of various benefactors to the city: viz. King James I.; John, Duke of Somerset; Bishop Seth Ward; Sir Robert Hyde, Chief Justice of England; Sir Samuel Eyre, Justice of the King's Bench; Sir Thomas White, founder of St. John's College, in Oxford; Chiffinch, Master of the Wardrobe to King Charles II.; Bishop Douglas, and Bishop Fisher.

In front of the Council Chamber, on a pedestal of polished Cornish granite, is a bronze statue, by Baron Marochetti, of the late Lord Herbert of Lea, who as Mr. Sidney Her-

bert for many years represented the Southern Division of Wiltshire in Parliament.

The new *Market House*, erected by a Joint Stock Company, was opened May 24th, 1859. It is connected by a branch line with the London and South-Western Railway. The façade consists of 3 arches, corresponding to the 3 aisles of the building, divided by rusticated Tuscan piers.

Leaving the Market-place by a narrow passage at the S.W. corner, we come to the *Poultry Cross*, of which mention is made in the records of the chapter in 1365, where poultry, fruit, vegetables, &c., are sold. It consists of 6 arches between as many massive buttress-piers, forming an open hexagon. In the centre is a pillar, square at the bottom, but towards the top of 6 sides, round which are clustered demi-angels holding blank shields, said to have once borne inscriptions. A square pillar with sun-dials has been appropriately replaced by a canopy surmounted with the cross.

Salisbury still contains many interesting remains of mediæval architecture, though the number is diminishing every year with the march of modern improvement.

One of the earliest and best specimens is to be seen in a house with carved gables, adjoining the Poultry Cross, now occupied by a watch-maker.

The finest example of mediæval domestic architecture existing in the city is the *Hall of John Halle*, now the show-room of Mr. Watson, china merchant, on the Canal. This noble banqueting-room was built, c. 1470, by John Halle, an eminent woolstapler, who flourished in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. It is open to the lofty roof, which is of dark oak or chesnut, the compartments formed by the intersection of the timbers ornamented with white fans of plaster beautifully contrasting with the dark

wood. The south end of the hall is occupied by a large oak screen or cabinet, the carving and figures of which are extremely elaborate and curious. Above it is a painting by the late A. W. Pugin, who, gratuitously, began and finished it at once, in 6 hours. In the S.E. corner is a low pointed door, formerly the only entrance into the apartment. On the opposite side is the massive stone fire-place. High up on the walls are busts of angels holding shields, on which are painted arms and the merchant's mark; lower down hang some fine stately portraits. A brilliant series of armorial bearings run through the lofty mullioned windows, which are glazed with stained glass.

The *George Inn* stands in the High Street at the end of the Canal. A passage under a carved gateway conducts to a court, round which ran one of those covered galleries often seen in the court-yards of old inns, which has now entirely disappeared. These premises are mentioned as far back as the year 1406, in the city Domesday or Register as the "George Inn." It was visited by Pepys in 1668, who writes, "Came to the George Inne, where lay in a silk bed, and very good diet." But he adds, that the reckoning was so exorbitant, particularly the charge for horse-hire, and 7s. 6d. for bread and beer, that he was "mad," and resolved to trouble the mistress about it, and get something for the poor.* A large part of this interesting old house has been pulled down, and the whole will probably be soon destroyed.

Near Crane Bridge, formerly the *City Workhouse*, a building early in the 15th cent. was purchased in 1881, and restored as a "Diocesan Church-house." This was formerly called Audley House, and belonged to Mervin, Lord Audley, who suffered death on Tower Hill for infamous crimes, in 1631. His property was forfeited,

* Pepys's Diary, ii. 237-8.

and his house in Crane-street escheated to the Bishop as Lord of the Manor, by whom it was presented to the city as a workhouse and house of correction.

In St. John's-street, below the White Hart, is a house which bears the name of the *King's Arms*, which after the battle of Worcester, while Charles II. lay concealed at *Heale House*, was the secret rendezvous of the Royalists, where Lord Wilmot and Henry Peters, a faithful servant of Colonel Wyndham's of Trent, found a secure asylum, and concerted measures for effecting the King's escape to the coast.

In St. Ann-street is the *Joiners' Hall*. The front is all that now remains, the inside having been completely modernized, and fitted up as 2 dwellings. The windows still contain some stained glass, and rest on brackets of grotesque figures. Below runs a frieze, on which are carved roses and griffins with most voluminous tails, said to be the handiwork of Humphrey Beckwith. Some of the oak carvings of the Hall are still in the possession of the proprietor.

The *Tailors' Hall* is situated at the end of a narrow passage leading out of Milford-street. The Giant and Hob-nob, relics of the Midsummer shows and city pageants, now in the Museum, were formerly kept in this deserted hall. Round the walls are small shields, inscribed with the initials of the members, and the date of their admission. The arms of the Company are over the fireplace, and a mutilated St. Christopher, in stained glass, in one of the windows. There are portraits of Charles I. and his Queen. The confraternity of Tailors is the only one of the ancient chartered companies now existing in Salisbury.

In *New Street*, at the last house, called *Mitre Corner*, being the spot where the first house of New Salisbury was built, and where Bp. Poore lived, every new prelate is invested

with his robes of office, and conducted thence to the Cathedral.

The *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum* in St. Ann Street is open to the public (free) daily, from 12 to 5 (Fridays and Sundays excepted), and on Monday evening from 8 to 9.

The collection is arranged in 3 rooms. In the *first* room is a fine collection of British birds, exhibited by Mr. Henry Blackmore. It is intended to devote this room to the display of objects illustrative of the *Natural History* of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. The *second* room contains the *archæological specimens*. The mediæval objects secured during the excavations made in Salisbury for drainage purposes are of great interest. These consist of pilgrims' signs, spurs, arrow-heads, daggers, swords, knives, spoons, workmen's tools, keys, rings, &c. A small but illustrative series of pottery and porcelain is shown. The *third* (circular) room contains the *geological specimens*. Especial prominence has been given to fossils derived from the local geological formations, and among these should be noticed a series of fossils from the upper chalk, exhibited by Mr. C. J. Read, and a slab of stone, obtained by that gentleman from the insect bed of the Vale of Wardour, containing a very large number of specimens of *Archæoniscus Brodiei*.

The *Blackmore Museum* is open to the public (free) the same days and hours as the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*. This museum was founded by Mr. William Blackmore, of Liverpool and London, in 1864; it is supported entirely at his expense, although placed by him under the management of the Committee of the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*.

The collection, which is wholly illustrative of prehistoric archæology, is arranged in four groups. 1. Remains of animals found associated with the works of prehistoric man.

2. Implements of stone. 3. Implements of bronze. 4. Implements, weapons, and ornaments of modern savages, which serve to throw light upon the use of similar objects belonging to prehistoric times. In *Group 1* are placed the mammalian remains obtained from the local brick-earth at Fisherton, including teeth and bones of cave lion, cave hyæna, wolf, fox, mammoth, rhinoceros, musk-sheep, &c. These have been named and arranged by Dr. Blackmore.—*Group 2* includes the finest and the most extensive series of flint implements from the “drift” of England to be seen in any public museum. About one-fourth of the specimens have been obtained from the valley-gravels (drift) of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. These drift implements, and the objects exhibited from the bone-caves of France, belong to the *palæolithic* or old-stone period. In the *neolithic* series are stone hatchets, arrow-heads, and implements from various parts of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, and Sweden; from Algeria and the Cape of Good Hope; from the East Indies; from the West Indies; and from Canada and the United States of America. The collection from the sites of ancient lake-villages (Pfahlbauten) of Switzerland claims special notice, as also does the unique series of sculptured stone pipes and other objects, obtained from the tumuli of the Scioto valley, Ohio, and so well known by archæologists as the “Squier and Davis” collection.—*Group 3.* The bronze objects consist of swords, daggers, spear-heads, and celts. These have been selected from a very large number, with reference to minor typical peculiarities; and as such, they, and the celts in particular, form a most instructive series. Specimens are shown from England, Ireland, France, Germany, Sweden, and America.—In *Group 4* are wea-

pons, implements, and ornaments in use by the Esquimaux, the Ahts of the N.W. coast of America, the Prairie Indians, the Indians of British Guiana, the Fuegians, the Polynesians, the Melanesians, and various semi-savage tribes of the African continent.

Few collections are calculated to throw more light upon the habits of prehistoric man than that in the Blackmore Museum. The stone, bronze, and modern groups have been arranged by Mr. Edward T. Stevens, to whose energy and labour the satisfactory completion of this fine collection must be in a great measure attributed. Catalogues may be obtained at the Museum.

Salisbury can boast of some distinguished natives and residents.

Horman, the Provost of Eton, author of the *Vulgaria*, d. 1535, b. in New St.; *Coryat*, the author of the *Crudities*, afterwards rector of Odcombe, d. 1606. *Sir Toby Matthew*, the Jesuit politician employed by James I. to negotiate the Spanish match, d. 1653. *Philip Massinger* the dramatist, b. 1584; *Thomas Chiffinch*, the infamous agent of the intrigues of Charles II., b. 1600; and *James Harris*, the philologist, known from his celebrated work as “*Hermes Harris*,” b. 1709, were natives of the city, *William Lawes* the musician, the almost equally gifted brother of *Henry Lawes* (b. at Dinton) (to whom we are indebted for the suggestion of Milton’s “*Comus*,” and the author of the dedicatory epistle to it), was born in the Close, 1603. Their father, Thomas Lawes, was a Vicar Choral of the Cathedral, of which Matthew Wise, d. 1687, the ecclesiastical composer, was organist. *Chubb “the Deist,”* author of the ‘*Sufficiency of Reason in Religion*,’ designated by Pope, in writing to Gay, as “a wonderful phenomenon of Wiltshire,” was born at East Harnham, 1679, apprenticed to a glove-maker, and became the leading spirit

of a debating club. He was the original of the "Square" of Fielding's 'Tom Jones,' while "Thwackum" was drawn from Hele, master of the Close Grammar School. *Joseph Addison*, born at Milston, near Amesbury, was educated in the Grammar School here, and *Sir Charles Lyell*, the geologist, at the Academy of Dr. Radcliffe.

To these we may not improperly add

John of Salisbury, born at Old Sarum, 1110, who, according to Leland, combined in himself "omnem scientiarum orbem," described by Bale as "a good Latinist, Grecian, mathematician, musician, philosopher, divine, and what-not," who died Bishop of Chartres, 1182, author of "Polycraticon," dedicated to Becket.

[Salisbury may be wisely selected by the tourist as the centre for excursions. The chief excursions that may be made from the city are those to (1) *Stonehenge* and *Amesbury*, including *Old Sarum*; (2) *Wilton House* (shown on Wednesdays) including *Bemerton*; (3) *Longford Castle* (not at present shown to the public), including *Trafalgar House* and *Clarendon*; and (4) *Wardour Castle* (shown any day).]

[STONEHENGE will probably be the first object selected by the tourist for a visit. This wonderful and mysterious monument of antiquity lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Amesbury, 9 m. from Salisbury. The best plan is to take a carriage (charge from White Hart, there and back, 10s. 6d. for one horse, 21s. for a pair; if Wilton is included, an additional 2 miles, the charge is 2s. more), going by *Old Sarum*, and returning by *Lake House* and *Heale House* and the *Valley of the Avon*.

2 m. rt. is *Old Sarum*, a huge conical knoll, presenting in the open country a bold outline that instantly attracts

the stranger's eye. It is now a bare hill encircled with entrenchments, with a central mound peering above them; but for centuries this spot was crowded with buildings, religious, military, and domestic, and was one of the most important cities in our island. Some say (but it is doubtful) that the ancient British name was *Caer Sarflog*, the "City of the Service Tree;" its Roman name was *Sorbidunum*, the Saxon *Scarobyrig*. The face of the hill is quite smooth and very steep. The summit is fenced by a mighty earthen rampart and ditch, protected by a lower raised bank, outside of it, the height from the top of the one to the bottom of the other being 106 ft. The surface of the hill within this vallum is an elongated circular area of $27\frac{1}{4}$ acres. In the centre of this area is a second circular earthwork and ditch 100 ft. in height; and within these stood the citadel. On the top of the earthwork surrounding the citadel was a very strong wall, 12 ft. thick, of flint imbedded in rubble, and coated with square stones, of which some portion remains. To the great outer earthwork there were two entrances, one (guarded by a hornwork still remaining) on the western, another (the postern) on the eastern side. The site of the citadel is now overgrown with briars and brushwood: the rest of the area is partly in a state of nature, partly cultivated. Though there may have been a British stronghold here, still it is the opinion of good antiquaries that there is now no British work to be seen; that when the Romans took possession of the hill they defended it by a simple escarpment, without any ditch, but with outworks at the entrances; and that the ditch now on the face of the scarp, as well as the central citadel and its defences, were added by the Saxons, perhaps by Alfred, who, in his war with the Danes, certainly paid great atten-

tion to strengthening the position. Several Roman roads radiated from the city: to Silchester, Winchester, Dorchester, Uphill on the Bristol Channel, and others, it is believed, to Bath and Marlborough. Cynric the Saxon won it by a victory over the Britons in 552. In 960 Edgar held his council here. In 1003 Sweyn and the Danes are said to have stormed it. In the time of the Confessor a monastery of nuns was established. It was not till 1072 that it became the seat of a bishop. The kingdom of Wessex originally formed one diocese, the see being fixed 635 at Dorchester (Oxon) and Birinus being the first bishop. In 683, Hædde being bishop, the see was removed to Winchester. In 705 the diocese was divided, a new see for the district E. of Selwood being fixed at Sherborne. A further subdivision took place in 909, a new see for Berks and Wilts being created at Ramsbury, which was reunited to Sherborne by Bp. Herman 1045, who in 1072 transferred the see to Old Sarum.

In 1070 William the Conqueror, as the closing act of his conquest, reviewed his victorious army on the plain below Old Sarum, where now the modern city stands, rewarding its leaders with lands and gifts. The castellanship of Sarum he gave to his kinsman, Osmund, who, afterwards taking holy orders, succeeded Herman in the see. In 1086 the king assembled here, the year before his death, all the chief landowners of the realm to swear that "whose men soever they were they would be faithful to him against all other men," by which "England was made for ever after an undivided kingdom" (*E. A. F.*). Bishop Osmund finished his new cathedral in 1092, and established the new ritual "*ad usum Sarum.*" The foundations of the cathedral were visible in the very dry summer of 1834. It was in form a plain cross, 270 ft. long by 70 wide: [*Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.*]

the transept of the same width, and 150 ft. long. Its plan is remarkable for having a square instead of an apsidal E. end, and a Galilee or Atrium at the W. end. Henry I.'s celebrated chancellor, Bishop Roger, improved both the church and fortifications. In the reign of Stephen the place began to decline. The soldiers and priests cooped up in so small a space could not agree. The situation was cold and windy, and water was scarce. Bishop Richard Poore obtained a grant of "Merrifield," where a new church (the present one) was commenced; the citizens migrated; the great travelling road was diverted to the new site, and the days of Old Sarum were numbered. A charter granted to the new town, 2 Henry III., sealed its fate. Very little, however, is known about the real history of the transference of the people from the one place to the other. There are some reasons for believing that a new town had been growing up by degrees long before the cathedral was built at New Sarum. Being only 1600 ft. in diameter, Old Sarum must have afforded small space for a cathedral, bishop's palace, a garrison, streets and houses. The cathedral had been taken down in 1331 (Edward III.) and its materials used in building the new spire, Close walls, &c. Leland (*temp.* Henry VIII.), reports some portions of the buildings as visible in his time, but says "there is not one house, neither within or without Old Saresbyri, inhabited. Much notable ruinus building of the castell yet ther remaynith. The dicke that envired the old town was a very deepe and strong thyng." The walls remained till 1608, and served as a quarry. Fisherton Old County Jail (*inter alia*) was built out of them. The great hollow enclosure of Old Sarum girt by its frowning earthwork (not unlike the crater of a volcano) is certainly a solemn and desolate place. Pepys passing by,

not knowing what it was, alighted to examine it, but "it being very dark it frightened me to be all alone at that time of night." [A subterranean passage was discovered in 1795. The foundations of towers may be traced, and many Roman coins have been met with.] Old Salisbury has given a title to the families of D'Eureux or Devereux, Longespée, Montacute, Nevill, Plantagenet, and the Cecil family who still enjoy it. The ground ceased to be Crown property in 1447 when it was granted to the Lords Stourton: on forfeiture by them it was granted by James I. to the Cecils. They sold it to Governor Pitt, and the Earl of Chatham sold it to the Earl of Caledon. It was subsequently purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commission. Its dignity as the resort of kings and seat of councils ceased with the growth of the younger city; but it long retained one relic of its former greatness, the right of returning 2 members to parliament, which was duly exercised until the passing of the Reform Bill, although for many a year not a single house had existed. The elections were held at the foot of the hill, on *Election Acre*, where a tent was pitched beneath the branches of an elm-tree, which is still pointed out as occupying the site of the last remaining house.

[The upper road from Old Sarum to Amesbury traverses the bleak, unsheltered downs of Salisbury Plain. About 1 m. short of Salisbury, beyond the intersection of a cross-road from Wilton, a peculiar hollow may be noticed to the rt., between a copse-wood and the road. It was one of the five places or "steads" in England in which tournaments were held according to a charter of Richard I. An imaginary line from Old Sarum to Wilton would intersect the actual spot. 8 m. brings the traveller to the little town of

Amesbury or *Ambresbury* (*Inn: George*. Pop. 1169), prettily situ-

ated in a fertile bottom embosomed in woods, in the valley of the Upper Avon. It is a place of the highest antiquity, and is reasonably supposed to derive its name in the A.-S. form *Ambres-burh* (answering to the Welsh *Caer Emrys*), from Aurelius Ambrosius, the British king of the 6th centy., identified by Dr. Guest with Natan-leod, *i. e.* "the Prince of the Sanctuary:" this sanctuary being, according to the same authority, the Great Monastery which the Welsh Triads inform us was established here in the very earliest times of Christianity. "The choir or sanctuary of Ambrosius was probably the monastery of Britain, the centre from which flowed the blessings of Christianity and civilisation." — *Guest*. An eponymic Abbot Ambrius appears in the not very trustworthy chronicle of Geoffrey of Monmouth. Amesbury is of much interest in legendary history as the place of Queen Guinevere's penitential retirement.

"Queen Guinevere had fled the court and sat
There in the holy house at Almesbury
Weeping, none with her save a little maid,
A novice."—*Tennyson*.

A Benedictine nunnery was founded here, c. 980, by Queen Elfrida to expiate the murder of her stepson Edward at Corfe. In 1177 Henry II. expelled the nuns for dissolute living, and gave it to the great convent of Fontevault in Anjou, whence it received a prioress and 24 nuns. It increased in splendour and in royal favour, and became a favourite retreat of ladies of royal or noble birth. Eleanor of Brittany, daughter of Geoffrey Plantagenet and sister of Prince Arthur, became a nun here, where she was buried, after her death at St. James's Priory, Bristol. Mary, the 6th daughter of Edward I., in company with 13 ladies of noble birth, including her younger sister Leonora, took the veil here in 1285; and here in 1292 died Eleanor, Queen of Henry III., having taken the veil here in

1287, fifteen years after her husband's death. Katharine of Aragon lodged within its walls on her first arrival in England in 1501. Florence Bormewe, the last abbess but one, resisted the attempts of Cromwell's emissaries to induce her to surrender her monastery into the King's hands. "Albeit we have used as many ways with her as our poor wits could attain, yet in the end we could not by any persuasion bring her to any conformity, but at all times she resteth and so remaineth in these terms, 'If the King's Highness command me to go from this house I will gladly go, though I beg my bread, and as for pension I care for none.' " One is hardly sorry to learn that the death of the abbess almost immediately afterwards saved her from further humiliation.

After the Dissolution the monastery was granted to the E. of Hertford, afterwards Protector Somerset, who made a residence out of the old buildings, and the Protector's son, Edward E. of Hertford, lived here. His 2nd wife was Frances, d. of Lord Howard of Bindon, of whom Sir Geo. Rodney, of Rodney Stoke (Rte. 22), was so enamoured that on her marriage he came to Amesbury, wrote a copy of verses to the countess in his own blood, and then fell on his sword. The property passed by marriage, sale, and inheritance respectively to the families of Ailesbury, Boyle, and Queensberry. William, 4th Duke of Queensberry, d. 1810, and in 1824 his estate was bought by Sir Edmund Antrobus. Whilst the residence of the Duke of Queensberry and his charming Duchess—Prior's

"Kitty, beautiful and young,
And wild as colt untam'd—"

it was the retreat of *Gay*, who here composed the "Beggar's Opera." A curious stone room, built into a bank overlooking the Avon in the grounds so as to form a kind of

artificial cavern, is said to have been the poet's study. The Duchess's sons died prematurely: Henry, the eldest, from the accidental discharge of his pistol as he was riding before the coach containing his father and brother, near Bawtry: Charles, the second son escaped from the earthquake at Lisbon, having spent from 9 till 2 o'clock clambering over the ruins, but died the next year.

The *House* was built from Inigo Jones's, or more probably his son-in-law Webb's designs, but has been since much altered. "It is interesting," writes Mr. Fergusson, "as one of the earliest examples of the type on which nine-tenths of the seats of English gentry were afterwards erected." The Avon flows through the beautiful grounds, and is famous as a trout-stream.

Amesbury was famous in Aubrey's time for the best tobacco-pipes in England, marked with a gauntlet, the name of the maker: many are to be seen in the Museum at Salisbury. The *Ch.*, as at Edington, Arundel, and frequently elsewhere, served both for the parish and the abbey, the monastic body occupying the choir and the parish the nave. It is a large cruciform edifice, of E. E. character, 128 ft. long, with a low square central tower. There are some rich Dec. windows in the chancel. Attached to the N. Trans. is a curious two-storied building of domestic character. The Avon sweeps round the base of the so-called

Vespasian's Camp (a name imposed by the fanciful Stukeley, but locally known as "*the Ramparts*"), crowning a densely-wooded hill, which forms the principal feature in the view from the House. Its ancient lines of defence enclosing 39 acres, and boldly scarped towards the W., environ the summit in the form of a scalene triangle. It is a British work, but Dr. Stukeley invented the name *Vespasian's Camp* fancying that it might have been

occupied and strengthened by the Romans when engaged in the conquest of the Belgæ. The area of the camp, now divided by the high road which passes Stonehenge, and intersected by drives, was entered through two openings, one on the N. and the other on the S.; and the former, which is still used as a roadway, commands a beautiful view over the subjacent vale, and of the church.

There are some little villages with their churches near Amesbury worthy of a visit. They lie mostly on the banks of the Avon, which the traveller may explore by an excellent road to Pewsey, a distance of 14 m. (see Rte. 5, pp. 68, 69).

At some little distance from Amesbury are three large, detached blocks of *sarsen* stone, similar to those at Stonehenge. *One*, 5 ft. in length, may be found on the cultivated open land, 1 m. N. of Amesbury, close to a barn: *another* in the river, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below the Nag's Head at Bulford, sometimes under water, but generally above it, close to the l. bank. A *third* stone, of small size, stands in Mr. Long's field, E. of and near Bulford.

Stonehenge is 2 m. W. from Amesbury, in an angle formed by the high road, where it branches rt. to Heytesbury, l. to the late Deptford Inn. It is situated in the midst of *Salisbury Plain*, an undulating tract of chalk country, which has been aptly likened to the surface of the ocean when heaving after a storm—the long rolling swell, “in fluctuation fixed.” Until a comparatively recent period this district was entirely in a state of nature. It was coated with a fine turf, which afforded pasture to sheep, the soil in many places but skin-deep, and the whole region bare of trees. But the natural features of this country are now much changed. The genius of the Plain is retiring before cultivation, which has for some time been creeping over the hills, and

is indeed now advanced to the very precincts of Stonehenge, within a gunshot of which are farm-buildings and cottages neatly slated and white-washed. Stonehenge, as seen from a distance, has generally disappointed. Its vastness is lost in the expanse of open country. It is only on the spot, and especially by moonlight—when the traveller beholds around him the ponderous masses, some erect, supporting imposts, some leaning—that its true proportions can be appreciated.

Stonehenge when perfect, so far as we can now judge, consisted of 2 circles and 2 ellipses of upright stones, concentric, and environed by a bank and ditch, and, outside this boundary, of a single upright stone and a hippodrome or *Cursus*. The entrance to the great cluster of circles faced the N.E.; and the road to it, *Via Sacra* or *Avenue*, is still to be traced by banks of earth. The traveller approaching Stonehenge by this course (which commands a grand outline of the ruin when the sun is low in the west) first reaches the isolated stone called the *Friar's Heel* (B), a block 16 ft. 9 in. long, and now in a leaning position. This stone takes its name from a legend of Salisbury Plain: viz. that whilst the Evil Spirit was busy erecting the great structure, he made the observation that no one would ever know how it was done. This was overheard by a Friar who happened to be lurking about to watch the operation, and who incautiously replied in the Wiltshire dialect, “That's more than thee can tell,” and fled for his life. Whereupon the other caught up an odd stone, flung it after the fugitive and hit him fortunately only on the heel.

From the Friar's Heel it is about 66 yards to the low circular earthen boundary—a bank and ditch—now very slightly marked upon the turf, enclosing the area within which Stonehenge stands. Just within the entrance of this earthen ring lies a large prostrate block (c), ridiculously

misnamed the *Slaughtering Stone*, as it evidently once stood upright. On the margin of the earthen ring, one 55 yards on the l., the other about 95 yards on the rt., of the entrance, are 2 smaller and unhewn stones (D). Some have thought that there may once have been a circular row of stones all round the earthen ring (as at Avebury). Of this there is no proof, and what two solitary stones could have been put there for, must be left to conjecture.

Upon the inner side of the margin of the boundary ring will be observed, one on the south side, the other on the north, the traces of two low tumuli very slightly raised above the ground, and imperfectly ditched round (E). The one on the N. side, if closely looked at, will be found to abut upon the boundary ring in such a manner as to prove that the tumulus (which has been opened, and was found to contain the burned bones of an interment) was on the spot before the earthen ring.

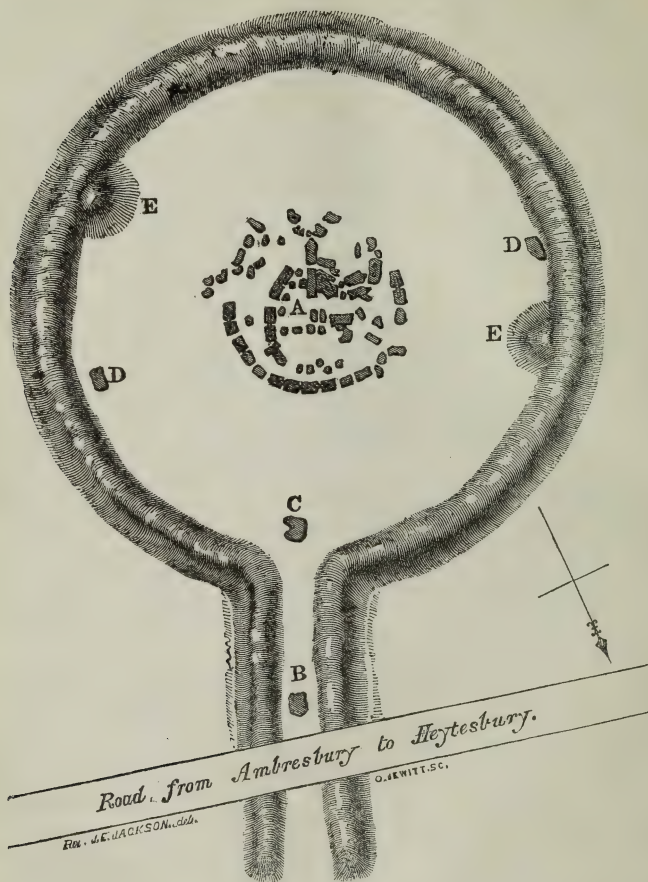
From the Friar's Heel to the first or outer circle of the great structure is about 38 yards.

The *outer circle* consisted of 30 upright stones fixed in the ground at intervals of $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., connected at the top by a continuous line of 30 imposts forming a corona, or ring of stone, at a height of 16 ft. above the ground. These blocks were all squared and rough-hewn, and cleverly joined together. The uprights were cut with knobs or tenons, which fitted into mortice-holes hewn in the undersides of the horizontal stones. About 9 ft. within this imposing peristyle was the *inner circle*, which resembled one of the simple stone monuments common in Wales and Cornwall, being a circle of unhewn syenite obelisks, apparently 36 or 40 in number, pillars about 6 ft. in height. Within this, again, was the *great ellipse*, formed of 5, or, as some think, 7 trilithons, or triplets of stones, all certainly hewn, each

group consisting of two blocks placed upright and 1 crosswise, like the frame of a doorway. These imposing structures rose progressively in height from N.E. to S.W., and the loftiest and largest attained an elevation of 25 ft. Lastly, within the trilithons was the *inner ellipse*, consisting of 19 obelisks of syenite, similar in character to those of the inner circle. Within the inner ellipse was the so-called *altar-stone*. Such seems to have been the original form of Stonehenge. The ruin of to-day presents a very different appearance. It is little more than a confused pile of enormous stones, which, according to the saying, cannot be counted twice alike. Yet enough remains to excite our wonder and admiration. Of the outer circle, or peristyle, 16 uprights and 6 imposts retain their original position; of the inner circle, the stones of which are unfortunately of a size very convenient for the spoiler, 7 only stand upright; of the great ellipse, there are still two perfect trilithons, and 2 single uprights, part of a trilithon overturned in 1620 by the Duke of Buckingham digging for treasure, one in a leaning position, a striking and interesting object with its boldly-cut tenon at top; another trilithon fell, Jan. 3, 1797, on a rapid thaw succeeding a severe frost; of the inner ellipse there are 6 blocks in their places, and in the centre remains the so-called altar-stone.

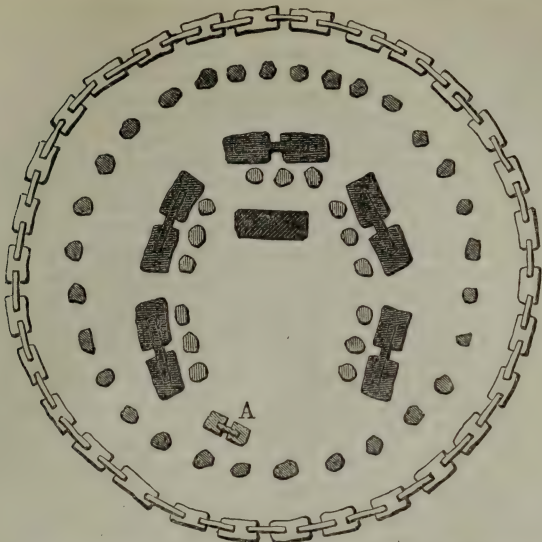
The outer circle is all of native Wiltshire stone, viz., the *Sarsen* or *Grey-wether*, a hard silicious sandstone, certainly brought to this spot from the Marlborough Downs. The 5 great trilithons are of the same kind of stone. The small obeliscal stones of the inner circle and the inmost ellipse are all of primary igneous rock called syenite, except 3 of greenstone and 1 of silicious schist. These smaller stones must have been brought from a great distance, as this formation is not found in the co.

STONEHENGE. Plate I.—General Plan.



- A. Stone Circles (see Plate II.), in centre of circular earthen bank, and ditch.
- B. Standing stone, called "The Friar's Heel."
- C. Large fallen stone.
- D D. Two smaller stones on margin of earthen bank.
- E E. Barrows, which, being absorbed in the earthen bank, appear to have been on the spot when the bank was made.

STONEHENGE. Plate II.—The Circles and Ellipses, of Trilithons and Monoliths occupying the centre of the earthen circle. See A, Plate I.



1. GROUND PLAN: as presumed to have been originally.

A. Small Trilithon of Syenite. That it stood here, is only conjecture. It now lies as marked A below.



2. GROUND PLAN. Present state.

of Wilts. Prof. Prestwich, without asserting them to have come from that district, says that they are of the same nature as the igneous rocks of part of the Lower Silurian region of North Pembrokeshire and Carnarvonshire. The large black flat stone lying in the centre is of fine micaceous sandstone different from all the rest. Lying on the ground to the left, on entering at the N.E., is a stone (A) with two mortice holes, one certainly used as a horizontal impost. This is also of syenite, and it has evidently been the cap-stone of a trilithon of smaller size than any trilithon now at Stonehenge. This proves that the number of trilithons must have been more than 5, so that we cannot positively say what their original number or arrangement may have been.

Having examined the ruin of the monument itself, the visitor should direct his attention to the neighbouring plain. He will observe the sepulchral tumuli ranged round at a distance. Within a radius of three miles there are as many as 300, while the rest of the country is comparatively free from them. The cluster ($\frac{1}{2}$ m.) to the N. is called the *Seven Barrows*, and adjoining it is the western end of the *Cursus*. This enclosure, bearing a strong likeness to a Roman race-ground, is marked out by banks of earth along the gently sloping plain, E. and W., to a distance of more than a mile and a half. At one end (the E.) it is barred by a high mound, supposed to have been the seat of the principal spectators; near the other by a low bank, which would appear to have been the goal. But we have no certain knowledge of the purpose this enclosure served. At a short distance farther N. is a much smaller but similar work, likewise barred by a bank at its western end.

Before the stranger bids adieu to Stonehenge, he will probably feel desirous of information with regard

to its date, origin, and use. It must, however, be confessed that they are all equally unknown to us. The depths of time transmit but a feeble light for our guidance. We will endeavour, nevertheless, to collect these rays, such as they are, into a focus, premising that the subject may prove uninteresting, and giving the reader the option of closing the book with Warton's beautiful sonnet:—

“Thou noblest monument of Albion's isle!
Whether by Merlin's aid from Scythia's shore
To Amber's fatal plain Pendragon bore,
Huge frame of giant-hands, the mighty pile,
To entomb his Britons slain by Hengist's guile:
Or Druid priests, sprinkled with human gore,
Taught 'mid thy massy maze their mystic lore:
Or Danish chiefs, enrich'd with savage spoil,
To Victory's idol vast, an unhewn shrine,
Rear'd the rude heap: or, in thy hallowed round,
Repose the kings of Brutus' genuine line;
Or here those kings in solemn state were crown'd:
Studious to trace thy wondrous origin,
We muse on many an ancient tale renowned.”

And Sir Philip Sydney's lines:—

“Near Wilton sweet, huge heaps of stones are found,
But so confus'd that neither any eye
Can count them just, nor reason reason try
What force them brought to so unlikely ground.”

There are two opinions respecting the period at which the different series of stones were set up. By some it is thought that the *outer circle* and the *outer oval* existed before the smaller stones of the inner circle and inner oval were placed; by others that the smaller stones were first erected; but if any inference as to the contemporaneous date of the whole structure may be drawn from the chippings of the various kinds of stones of which it is composed being found mixed together at the bases of the stones, and in the adjacent barrows, we are led to assign *one date* to the whole.

The first author who makes men-

tion of Stonehenge is Henry of Huntingdon,* who wrote at the commencement of 12th cent. In his "Chronicle" he speaks of it as the second wonder of England, and calls it *Stanenges*. Geoffrey of Monmouth, who wrote at the same time, declares it to have been a monument erected in the reign of Aurelius Ambrosius, King of Britain, c. 460, in order to commemorate the slaughter of the Britons by Hengist, and hence the etymology which has sometimes been assigned to it of "Hengists' Stones;" but the true etymological explanation of Stanhenges seems to be (A.-S. *Stán*, used as an adjective, and hence, from A.-S. *hón*). i. e. *Stone hanging-places*, from the groups of stones resembling a *gallows*. This was long ago suggested by Wace, the Anglo-Norman poet, who writes

"' Stanhengues ' ont nom en Anglois,
' Pieres pandues ' en Francois."

The name given to it by the Saxons themselves evidently shows that it was not set up by that people, who would hardly have bestowed such a title on a work emanating from themselves, and it is almost certain that it is much anterior to the coming of the Saxons.

Inigo Jones broached the theory that it was a temple erected by the Romans to the god *Coelus*. But this has been repudiated by all archæologists, and may be pronounced baseless.

It is held by many archæologists that the large stone circles of these islands were used as *places of religious assembly* by the ancient inhabitants. In Scotland there appears to have been a general tradition that they were *places of sacrifice* in heathen times.† Their Gaelic name

* *Secundum est apud Stanenges ubi lapides miræ magnitudinis in modum portarum elevati sunt, ita ut portæ portis superpositæ videantur: nec potest aliquis excogitare quâ arte, tanti lapides adeo in altum elevati sunt, vel quare ibi constructi sunt.*

† See Hector Boece, *Hist. Scotland*, A.D. 1526. *Archæol.* vol. i. p. 315.

of *clachan* is equally applicable to a church. They have also the name of *law-stones*, and there is documentary evidence that as late as the 14th cent. they were used for holding *courts of justice* (see 'Prehistoric Ann. of Scotland', p. 113). The laws of Edgar and Canute, in the 10th and 11th centuries, show the same veneration in England for stones, which were even resorted to as *places of sanctuary*.

In most parts of France stone monuments seem to have been sedulously destroyed, but they are abundant in Brittany. In our own Island they are found in all parts, from the Scilly Isles to the Orkneys, and are generally *circular* in form, and usually surrounded by an earthwork, consisting of a foss and vallum, the vallum being on the *outside*.

The stones are often of great size, 15 ft. and upwards in height, and selected with some regard to symmetry, some having been hammer-dressed. The diameters of the stone circles vary from 60 ft. to 366, and even to 1200 ft, which is the diameter of the great circle at Abury. The more usual diameter, according to Dr. Thurnam (*Cran. Brit.* c. v. p. 124), is about 100 ft., which is that of Stonehenge.

Some of the sacred circles were approached by avenues formed of parallel rows of stones, and are of considerable dimensions and rectilinear, as at Classerness, Merivale. That of Shap was of large size, and is said to be traceable for 2 m. The avenue is traceable at Avebury, and is most striking at Carnac, in Brittany, where there are from 10 to 13 rows in different avenues.

Avebury and Stonehenge, both in Wilts, are the most remarkable so-called Druidical monuments in Britain. Avebury was probably in the district of the Dobuni, and is formed of *unhewn* stones. Stonehenge is different; it is formed partially of hewed and squared stones. The columnar

uprights are connected with a continuous transom or architrave, and by a system of mortice and tenon joints. That Stonehenge is *more recent than Avebury* there can be little doubt. If the people who erected it were the Belgæ, the period of its erection would be about the *second century prior* to the Christian era.

Fergusson maintains that Stonehenge, Silbury Hill, and Avebury, are of post-Roman date, and were probably erected during the 5th and 6th centuries. Sir John Lubbock, representing the more generally received views of English antiquaries, assigns them all to a pre-Roman period of uncertain date.]

[On returning to Salisbury, the rte. by the valley of the Avon, locally known as *the Bournes*, may be advantageously taken. Proceeding over Normanton Downs, in 2 m. we reach the village of *Wilsford*.—Wilsford House is a handsome modern mansion. A little further down the stream is *Lake House*, Rev. E. Duke, a very picturesque mansion in the Elizabethan style, of the time of James I., and a remarkably fine and perfect specimen of the architecture of that period. It contains some valuable antiquities collected by the late Mr. Duke, the antiquary. In the park are some fine barrows planted with fir-trees.

2½ m. is *Great Durnford Ch.*, with very rich Norm. N. and S. doorways and chancel arch. The font is Norm. with an intersecting arcade. There is a curious brass to Edw. Young, his wife, and 14 children, 1670. Great Durnford House was once a seat of the Hungerfords. Evelyn notes in his diary, July 22, 1654, "We dined at a ferme of my uncle Hungerfords, called Darneford Magna, situate in a valley under the plaine, most sweetly watered, abounding in troutes."

Opposite to Great Durnford is

Ogbury Camp, an entrenched circular British work, with a vallum more than 30 ft. high.

5 m. At *Middle Woodford* is *Heale House*, one of the many hiding-places in which Charles II. found shelter after the battle of Worcester. The house has been altered, but some of the carved work remains. Charles II. came to Stonehenge from his concealment at Heale House, to meet the friends who were to conduct him to the coast of Sussex, where they had secured a vessel for his escape. Arriving at the spot before the appointed hour, the king, to beguile the time, counted and recounted the stones, and proved to his satisfaction the fallacy of the vulgar notion that they cannot be told twice alike.

Heale Hill is remarkable for a circle on the summit, and for traces of a British village on the S. slope. We reach at

6 m. *Stratford*, lying close under the hill of Old Sarum, which derived its name from the Roman *street* or road which here *forded* the river on its course to Badbury Rings and Dorchester. The manor-house was the residence of *William Pitt, Earl of Chatham*, who was first returned to parliament (1735) as member for those vacant mounds on the hill above. Governor Pitt purchased the manor in 1690 for 1500*l.*, and Lord Grenville, who had married the sister of Thos. Pitt, Lord Camelford, afterwards sold it for 65,000*l.*, to Lord Caledon. In 1801 John Horne Tooke was returned by Lord Camelford, and in his case the question of the disability of clergymen to sit as Members of Parliament was tried and settled. The door-head of the quaint gabled Parsonage bears the inscription—"Parva sed apta domino, 1675." A charming lime avenue leads from the parsonage to the *Ch.*, a debased Perp. building, bearing on the tower in large letters

the inscription—"Thomas Pitt, Esq., Benefactor, Anno 1711." It contains an hourglass-stand for the pulpit.]

[(b) The second object of interest to be visited from Salisbury is *Wilton House*, the seat of the Earl of Pembroke, and celebrated for its marbles and pictures. It may be seen on Wednesdays from 10 to 4. It is 3 m. distant. There are stations at Wilton, both of the G. W. and S. W. Rlys.; but by far the most agreeable way of visiting it is in a carriage, or still better on foot. To the l. of the road is the hamlet of

1½ m. *Bemerton*, interesting as the living of *George Herbert* (1630-32), so charmingly described by Izaak Walton as "the good and more pleasant than healthful Parsonage of Bemerton," in which he died, 1632, in his 43rd year. Herbert restored the parsonage and old church, within the altar-rail of which he lies buried. According to the tradition, an aged fig-tree against the wall of the rectory, and a medlar-tree in the garden, were planted by him. *Norris*, the poet and divine, and *Coxe*, the traveller and historian, were also rectors of Bemerton. The bells in the church turret, the same tolled by Herbert at his institution, are of the 14th century, the S. and W. windows of Dec. date (about 1300), the doorway and pulpit canopy Jacobean, and the font Early English. There is a very good example of a low side window. A new *Ch.* has been erected near the old one as a memorial of Herbert by his admirers. One of the earliest paper-mills in England was established at Bemerton.]

WILTON, 3 m. (*Inn*: Pembroke Arms, close to the park gates, Pop. of Parl. borough, 8639; of urban sanitary district, 1826), is a small quiet town situated on the junction of the Wylde and Nadder. It is of great antiquity, and, as the capital of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of

Wessex, gave name to Wiltshire, and was the scene of many stirring events. It was here that, according to Palgrave, when Wessex and Mercia were contending for the possession of all England S. of the Humber, Egbert King of Wessex overthrew, in the year 823, his rival Beornwulf in the bloody victory of Ellendun, and dwelt here "nine long winters in rest and peace." His successors frequently resided here. [The seat of the battle is perhaps more probably placed at Allington near Amesbury.] In 871 the great Alfred here defeated the Danes in a pitched battle, which procured him a peace of 2 years' duration. In 1003 the Danes had their revenge, when under Sweyn they burnt the place to the ground. In Norman times Wilton was considered the first and most valuable of the royal boroughs. Here the Empress Maud kept her Easter festival in royal state, A.D. 1141. Two years later, July 1, 1143, King Stephen came to Wilton with the view of building a castle here, and by this means curbing the rebellious burghers of Sarum; but the Earl of Gloucester, having assembled a force for the Empress Maud, fired the houses and put the monarch to flight. According to Harding he was aided by K. David of Scotland.

"The kyng Stephan a castell then began
At Wilton, where kyng David with power
And Erle Robert of Glocester that was then
Him drove awaye out of that place full
clere,
And bet it downe to the ground full nere."

During all these early times Wilton flourished as a large and busy town, quickly recovering from its disasters, and it continued to prosper down to the year 1244, when it received the blow which was to prove fatal to its importance, in the diversion of the great western road, which formerly passed through it on its way from Old Sarum.* In 1349 the prosperity

* "The chaunging of this way was the total cause of the ruine of Old Saresbyri and

of the town received another severe blow from a pestilence which carried off a third of the population. In the 15th cent. it had a brisk trade in beer, and the Mayor was obliged to interfere to settle the claims of the rival brewers, ordaining the days on which they were severally to brew. In 1551 Edward VI. on his fruitless tour for health visited Wilton, which was honoured by the presence of Elizabeth in one of her progresses, in which she is described as having shown herself "both merrie and pleasante." James I. paid it frequent visits, in 1620 making an expedition from it to visit Stonehenge. In 1627, on account of the plague at Salisbury, the market was transferred to Wilton, and tradition points out a mossy stone by the wayside between West Harnham and Netherhampton, where the money of the customers was deposited in a basin of vinegar. In our times the name of Wilton has been associated with *carpets*, which were first made in England at this town (by a Mr. Moody), and are still the staple of the place. In the factory of Messrs. Lapworth Brothers the finest Axminsters are manufactured, as well as those called Saxony, made of short-staple wool.

The *Wylve* and *Nadder*, which wash the sides of Wilton, effect a junction below the park of the Pembrokes. The *Wylve* rises on the high land formerly bosomed in Selwood, and on its approach to this place flows for a long distance by the side of the ancient forest of Grovely.

The *Wylve*, insignificant stream as it is, is immortalised by Spencer in his "*Faery Queen*" (Bk. iv. c. 11).

"Next him went Wylebourne with passage sly,

That of his wyliness his name doth take,
And of himself doth name the shire thereby."

Wiltown, for afore W. had 12 paroches churches or more, and was the hedde town of Wileshir."
—*Leland*. The 12 churches are all identified by Sir R. C. Hoare.

The monastery here is usually said to owe its foundation to Alfred, who endowed it with his manor of Wilton, established it in the royal palace, and added an abbess and 12 nuns. But he was really the *re-founder*, for it had been originally founded by Wulstan, Earl of the Wilsaetas, while languishing of his wounds after the battle of Cynemæresford, A.D. 800. This first foundation was merely a chantry or oratory, changed A.D. 830 into a priory of Benedictine sisters, of which Ethelburga, Wulstan's widow, became first prioress. It was much patronized by Anglo-Saxon kings, and refounded by Alfred at the instigation of his queen. Wulfrude or Wulfrith, a noble mistress of Edgar's, and mother of St. Edith of Wilton who had been educated here, became abbess c. 968. Edgar wished to marry her on the death of his wife, but she devoted herself to religion. There is a curious tale told of the relics of the Welsh saint Ivius or Yweg. "The clerks who bore the sacred remains were entertained by Wulfrith, and the casket containing them was placed on the altar. The next morning it was found immovably fixed. The abbess gave them 200s., and they departed sorrowful." St. Edith refused the abbesship her father wished her to receive, and died A.D. 984, at the early age of 23. Miracles were worked by her remains, and she became the patron saint of the convent. A second Edith, daughter of Earl Godwine, and wife of Edward the Confessor, rebuilt the ch., which had been of wood, in stone, and it was dedicated by Bp. Herman 1065, shortly before the consecration of Westminster Abbey. Christina, sister of Edg. Atheling, was abbess of Wilton, and her niece Maud was brought up here, wearing the veil unwillingly to save herself from the insolence of the Normans; but as soon as she got out of her aunt's presence she would take it

off, throw it on the ground, and trample it under foot. When Juliana de Giffard was abbess, *temp.* Edw. I., her relation Osborn de Giffard carried off 2 nuns, for which he was sentenced among other things to be whipt naked with rods 3 several Sundays in the ch. of Wilton, and also in the ch. and market-place of Shaftesbury, lay aside all knightly insignia, and wear russet and sheepskins, and wear no shirt till he had been 3 years in the Holy Land. In 1379 the discipline was lax, and Bp. Wyvill issued an ordinance for its regulation, from which we find that the bread, milk, and beer were so bad that the nuns were obliged to sell them and buy better. The abbess was ordered to supply the same she had herself, under pain of suspension. There are curious letters extant of Henry VIII. to Wolsey, and Anne Bullen, who had a favourite she wished to be abbess, but who proved to be of very low life. "I wolde not," writes the king, "for all the gold in the world clog your conscience nor mine to make her a ruler of a house which is of so ungodly a demeanour, nor I trust you would not that neither for brother nor sister I should so destain mine honour or conscience." At the Dissolution there were an abbess, who retired to Fovant, and 31 nuns. The abbess, by virtue of her office, was a baroness of England, a privilege shared only by Shaftesbury, Barking, and St. Mary's Winton.

The so-called see of Wilton, i.e. of the "*Wiltunensis episcopus*" (Wilton was never the seat of a bishopric), was really that of Wiltshire, established at Ramsbury A.D. 909. Ethelstan was the first bishop; Herman the 9th and last, d. 1078; shortly after the Conquest the see was removed to *Sarum*.

The *Hospital of St. John* was founded by Bp. Hubert, c. 1189. There are some remains of the build-

ings, including a small chapel, with a piscina.

The former parish church, in the centre of Wilton, has been partly pulled down, but the remaining ivy-clad fragments are very picturesque; the ancient *borough cross* remains on the site it has so long occupied by the churchyard wall.

Wilton received a great ornament by the erection in 1844, by the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, afterwards Lord Herbert of Lea, of a new *Church* in the Lombardic style of the N. of Italy, from designs by T. H. Wyatt, which for gorgeousness and beauty of detail stands unrivalled. Elevated on a terrace, it presents its front to the road, the bell-tower rising on the side to a height of 108 ft. distinct from the ch., after the fashion of the Italian campanile, but communicating with it by a cloister of elaborately worked columns in pairs. The front is approached by a flight of steps 100 ft. in width, and presents 3 deeply recessed circular porches, the central and principal entrance being ornamented with mouldings, exquisitely worked, and with pillars, the foremost of which are twisted and detached, resting on lions sculptured in stone from the Isle of Man.

The usual entrance for visitors is by the door under the campanile, and through the cloister. The internal door has black marble twisted columns, above it the visitor will observe a Jacobean monument skilfully utilized. On each side of the nave are 8 semicircular arches, supported on cylindrical shafts with richly carved capitals, each of a different design. Between the clerestory windows and the principal arches is a kind of triforium arcade, skilfully breaking the bareness of the walls. The roof is open, and needs colour and gilding. At the E. end is a gallery of Painswick stone, supported on marble columns with alabaster capitals, and bearing the motto, "All things come of Thee,

and of Thine own have we given Thee." Below the gallery is the font of variously coloured marble, resting on a polished black slab of the same material, and decorated with the fruit and leaves of the vine, in allusion to the parable of our Saviour: "I am the vine, ye are the branches."

One window to the l. is filled with very gorgeous Flemish glass. That opposite is a memorial to the lamented founder of the ch., erected by the townspeople. There are several other memorial windows in the nave. The pulpit is one of the most magnificent and interesting of the many works of art for which this ch. is conspicuous; it is of Caen stone, and is supported on 16 black marble columns, with alabaster capitals. In the upper part the visitor will notice some small twisted marble columns, with spiral bands of mosaic. These formed part of a shrine set up in S. Maria Maggiore in Rome, A.D. 1256, and being ejected during some repairs in the last century, found their way to Strawberry Hill, where they were purchased by the builder of the ch. Other larger members of the shrine (of the same shape and pattern) may be seen in and about the chancel. They are interesting as rare specimens of the "*opus Græcanicum*," of which the only other ancient examples in England are the shrine of the Confessor, and the tomb of Hen. III. in Westminster Abbey. A piece of good modern mosaic, formed of porphyry, serpentine, and white marble, of Italian manufacture, lies in the pavement at the foot of the chancel steps, between the pulpit and the reading-desk. This last is ornamented with fine bas-reliefs in wood, executed in Belgium, representing the 4 Evangelists. The lectern is formed by a gilt eagle standing on 3 black marble pillars. The arches dividing the aisles of the chancel from those of the nave are supported by lofty

shafts of black and gold marble, each of a solid block, from Porto Venere in the Gulf of Spezzia. The shafts supporting the nave arch are imitations in scagliola. The central apse is adorned with an arcade of twisted columns of rich Sienna marble, with alabaster capitals. The communion table, gorgeously vested, stands according to ancient precedent in the centre of the chord of the apse. The windows of the great apse are filled with medallions of richly coloured glass of the 13th cent. Many of these are French, and some are fine examples of the best period of glass painting. The side apses have glass of different periods, including some whole-length figures of excellent drawing and colours. The apse to the l. of the communion table contains a mural brass (1585), and an alms chest of wrought iron from Venice. In the opposite apse are the monuments of the Pembrokes removed from the old parish ch., one by Westmacott, and another by Rossi; good specimens of their style. In far higher taste are the two altar-tombs, with white marble recumbent effigies, sculptured by Francis, lately erected within the altar rails in memory of the late Lord Herbert of Lea, d. 1861, and his mother, Catherine Countess of Pembroke, daughter of Count Woronzow, d. 1856. The tombs are of alabaster, arcaded, and inlaid with coloured marbles. The spandrils of Lord Herbert's tomb are carved with subjects illustrative of his public life, especially when as Secretary of War, the British soldier was indebted to him for so many improvements in his moral and sanitary condition. These monuments are very successful examples of a return to a better taste in sepulchral memorials. The floor of the chancel is laid with Singer's tesserae. The ch. is lighted by hanging lamps of embossed brass, copied from Venetian examples. The carvings in pear-

tree wood, which form the panels of the doors, must not be unnoticed. Beneath the altar is the Pembroke vault, entered from without, and open to the air. The tombstones in the churchyard are nearly all varieties of the memorial cross.

Wilton House :—

"Pembroke's princely dome, where mimic Art
Decks with a magic hand the dazzling bowers;
Its living hues where the warm pencil pours,
And breathing forms from the rude marble start."
T. Warton.

occupies the site of the monastery, given, with the lands attached to it, by Henry VIII. to Sir William Herbert, 1st Earl of Pembroke. The place abounds in interesting associations. "Charles I. did love Wilton above all places, and came there every summer. By his advice the garden front of the house was built in the Italian style."—*Aubrey*. The family of Herbert have been distinguished equally in arts, arms, and literature. They were the patrons of Holbein, Shakespeare, who with his troop acted here before James I. in 1603, Ben Jonson, Inigo Jones, and Vand dyck; and of Massinger, whose father was a retainer of the family. Sir Philip Sidney wrote part of his 'Arcadia' on this spot, at the request of his sister, Countess of Pembroke, whose beautiful epitaph, generally attributed to Ben Jonson, was really written by William Browne, author of the 'Pastorals.'

"Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother,
Death, ere thou hast slain another
Wise, and fair, and good as she,
Time shall throw a dart at thee."

A lock of this lady's hair is preserved here.

The present mansion, famed for its *marbles* and pictures, but particularly renowned for its *Vandycks*, is, for the most part, modern. It was begun temp. Elizabeth. Holbein de-

signed the porch. The house was altered temp. Charles I. from designs of a Gascon named Solomon de Caus, and was restored, after a fire, by Webb, Inigo Jones's son-in-law. It was "Gothicised" in questionable taste by James Wyatt at the beginning of the present century, but has been improved by more recent alterations.

A *Triumphal Arch*, surmounted by a cast from the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, leads to the chief entrance.

The *Hall* is adorned with suits of ancient armour, which have an interest independent of their splendour in being trophies of the victory of St. Quentin, gained by the Spaniards over the French, with the co-operation of a brave band of English sent by Queen Mary, under the command of Wm. Earl of Pembroke, 1557. His armour is here, together with the full suits of the Constable Anne de Montmorency, Louis de Bourbon, Duc de Montpensier, &c.

The *Pembroke Marbles*, arranged in the hall and around the cloister, were collected, 1678, by Thomas, 8th Earl of Pembroke, of whom Pope said,

"For Pembroke, statues, dirty gods, and coins;"

and include a portion of those of Thomas Earl of Arundell (the rest are at Oxford), and of the collection of Giustiniani, of the Valetta Gallery at Naples, and of Card. Mazarine. They long possessed an undeserved reputation; for, in truth, many of the specimens are modern antiques: among the genuine ancient marbles not a few are mutilated, the limbs, &c., are badly restored; and the greater part are of second-rate value as works of art. The best are—

In the *Entrance-Hall*—Statues of Apollo, Jupiter, and [the Elder Faustina;—a Mosaic in relief of Hercules in the Garden of the Hesperides;—a serpent twined round the golden apple-tree, very curious, and probably

unique;—a colossal horse, workmanship admirable, head noble and delicate;—Curtius leaping into the fiery chasm, a bas-relief in a circle.

In the *Gallery*—No. 1. An altar of Bacchus, the figures in relief. 8. A sleeping Nymph. 23. The Gods summoned by Vulcan to see Venus and Mars taken in the net, an oval relief. 48. Bas-relief of Jupiter on his throne. 61. Death of Meleager, 3 bas-reliefs on a sarcophagus, after the Greek model; the figures finely designed, the workmanship indifferent. 62. Silenus drinking out of a cantharus; the action spirited. 109. A Cippus: "the figures very noble and simple in action."—*Waagen*. 115. A relief of Venus accompanied by Tritons and Nereids. 117. Statue of a female seated. 124. Cupid bending his bow, a copy of the well-known work of Praxiteles; very delicate, but only the torso is old. 136. An ancient Roman consular chair, part bronze, part iron. 137. A sarcophagus, with reliefs from the story of Ceres and Bacchus; the principal subject represents Ceres sending Triptolemus to sow corn; workmanship indifferent, of a late time. 151. Statue of a young Faun, gracefully twisting back his body to look at a panther at his feet; a repetition of an often-repeated group, the design good, and of delicate execution. 163. Large sarcophagus, with high relief of the destruction of Niobe's children; of a late period; the attitudes very beautiful, and probably from older models. 170. An Amazon defending herself against a horseman. 171. The family of Niobe, "an elegant bas-relief of the cinque-cento time, and strongly resembling the works of the able Florentine sculptor Benedetto da Rovezzano, who was for a time in England."—*Waagen's* 'Treasures of Art.'

Busts—of Nero; Julia Mæsa; Lucan; and a so-called Lucilla, daughter of Marcus Aurelius (wonderfully

finished). Passavant, however, in his *Tour*, remarks that those of Germanicus, Augustus, and several of the Greek poets, are the finest in the collection.

Paintings:—"The chief strength of the collection consists in works of the German and Flemish schools."—*Waagen*.

Alb. Dürer (1512) (? *I. H. Rhénus*): the Descent from the Cross, "wrought with amazing labour and neatness; the composition good and well conducted throughout, but the style dry and hard. The expressions poor, but the actions good. The colours are positive, without any attempt at harmony, and yet are well arranged."—*T. Phillips*, R.A. From the Arundell collection.—*Parmegiano*: Virgin, Child, St. John, and Catherine; "very beautifully designed, but rather hard in the execution, and inharmonious in colour."—*P*. It was given by the Grand Duke of Tuscany to Philip E. of Pembroke.—*Spagnoletto*: Democritus, whole length, laughing, exceedingly fine, and expression entirely appropriate.—King Richard II. when young (*i. e.* about 1377), backed by his patrons, St. John Baptist, St. Edmund King, and St. Edward Confessor, praying to the Virgin and Child; a Diptych, curious from its age and style, and probably by an Italian painter. It is mentioned by Walpole as an early specimen of *oil-painting*, whereas it is in *distemper*, not in oil. It is on a gold background; the finish careful, the arrangement formal, the faces uniform and without expression. The arms of the king, the broom-pod (*Plantagenet*), and the white hart, derived from his mother, are seen on his robe and on the angels' necks.—*Netscher*: Portrait of De Witt.—*Holbein*: the Father of Sir Thomas More; shows the simple truth of nature; hands excellent.—*Mabuse*: the Three Children of Henry VII., same as those at Hamp-

ton Court and Longford, but good.—*Honthorst*: Prince Rupert; one of the finest paintings here.—*And. Mantegna*: Judith with the Head of Holofernes; “her features and attitude noble and graceful; carefully executed.”—*And. del Sarto*: Holy Family.—*Baldassare Peruzzi*: the Ascension of our Lord.—*N. Poussin*: two boys playing with a bird.—*Mieris’s* own portrait, capital.—*Titian*: Head of the Magdalen; has suffered much.—*Vandyck*: Ph. Herbert Earl of P., with his wand of office; small sketch for the larger picture.—*Rubens*: Four children, Christ and St. John with a lamb, a little girl, and an angel; a subject often repeated by Rubens.—*Steenwick*: Peter conducted out of prison; a dark crypt, minutely painted, but with good effect.—*Parmegiano*: Ceres, genuine, but affected attitude.—*Guido*: Charity; must have been beautiful, but is spoiled by rubbing. It belonged to Charles I.—*Lucas Van Leyden*: Men and women playing cards; one of the very rare genuine works of this master; heads animated and spirited, full of expression, though hard in manner.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: Henry, 10th E. of Pembroke.—*An Antique Painting* from the Temple of Juno, representing Minerva, Hercules, Diana, Apollo, Ceres, Vertumnus, and Juno; rude in the treatment, but worthy of notice on account of the broad handling.

In the double Cube, or *Great Room*, are the *Portraits* by VANDYCK, the pride and boast of the Wilton collection. The finest are—

The Herbert Family: ten figures. Philip Earl of Pembroke, and his Countess, in black, seated on a raised platform; on their rt. their 5 sons; on their l. their daughter, in blue, and her husband, Robert E. of Caernarvon; before them Lady Mary, daughter of George D. of Buckingham, betrothed to Charles Ld. Herbert; above, in the clouds, as angels,

2 sons and a daughter, who died young. This large work stands alone in point of merit. The personages are not dramatically connected together, but they all look out of the picture.

The late Mr. Phillips, R.A., observes, “I am at a loss for words to convey my admiration of this picture. An air of nobleness reigns over it, with rich and deep colouring. Yet I think the expression bad; and wish it had an unity of subject, or any subject. But, as it is, when shall we see its like again?” 1801.

Charles I. in armour, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, very excellent. Henrietta Maria, inferior, perhaps a copy. 3 Children of Charles I., beautifully painted, particularly the Princess, dated 1635. The Duchess of Richmond and her Dwarf, Mr. Gibson, whole length, very good, especially the dwarf (the Duke is probably by Jansen). The Countess of Castlehaven, in an orange dress. The 2nd Earl Philip, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, not one of Vandyck’s best. Mrs. Killigrew and Mrs. Morton, beauties of Charles I.’s court, “well-painted heads, especially Mrs. Killigrew’s, which is in his most finished manner—rich, soft, and true, beyond measure.”—*T. P.* Earl and Countess of Bedford, same size of canvas, but very inferior. Philip E. of Pembroke. Penelope, wife of Ph. E. of P. (“A genuine, carefully executed, and excellent picture.”)—*Waagen*.

In the *Library* are portraits of William, 1st Earl of Pembroke, the friend of Shakespeare, and founder of the family, with his dog, who pined away at his death: it is called *Holbein’s*, but either it is not his, or it has been repainted, the hands very bad. Portraits of Alexander Pope and of St. Evremond. A copy of the ‘Arcadia’ contains a lock of Queen Elizabeth’s hair, given by her to Sir Ph. Sidney, together with some verses in his hand in acknowledgment of the gift.

The grounds and gardens of Wilton,

although flat, are exceedingly beautiful, owing to the views they command, especially the vista opening on Salisbury spire, opposite the S.E. angle of the house—to the noble trees, particularly the group of cedars, and an ancient ilex, beneath whose branches Sir Philip Sidney may have reclined, when he here composed his ‘*Arcadia*’—and to the architectural ornaments, such as the *triumphal arch* by Chambers, and the covered *Palladian bridge*, built by Henry Earl of Pembroke, over the water (the Nadder). The Italian garden, tastefully arranged with balustrades and vases, terminates in a *pavilion*, once a vestibule of the house. This was designed by *Holbein*, in the style of the Renaissance, and consists of a portico of pillars, with busts of Edward VI. and the Earl of Pembroke inserted.]

[c. *Longford Castle*, seat of the Earl of Radnor, is situated on the Avon, 1. of the road to Downton, 3 m. from Salisbury. It may be seen only with Lord Radnor’s permission, The road is that by Downton to Fordingbridge.]

[1½ m. S.W. is *Britford Ch.*; a cruciform building without aisles with an embattled tower and low spire, well restored by Mr. Street in 1873. It is mainly of the 14th cent., but with remains of so-called Anglo-Saxon work, which deserve careful attention. These consist of three arches, one on either side of the nave, towards the E. end, and on the S. side towards the W. They have been opened out during the last repair and annexes erected, enabling them to be examined in every part. The E. jamb of the northern arch is elaborately decorated with carving representing a vine. These arches appear to have opened into aisles, or chapels. The Ch. contains a mausoleum of the Bouveries, and in the chancel is a curious altar-tomb, sculp-

tured with figures of St. Margaret, St. Nicholas, St. Edmund of Canterbury, St. Catherine with her symbols, the sword and the wheel, St. George, and the Virgin and Child, which is reported to have been brought from the College de Vaux at Salisbury a few years since. This tomb was erroneously attributed by Sir R. C. Hoare to the Duke of Buckingham, beheaded at Salisbury. An interesting dwarf effigy of a male figure holding a cup, found in the restoration, is preserved in the chancel. The mausoleum of the Radnor family lies to the N. of the chancel. The old parsonage N.W. of the Ch. is a picturesque brick and stone building. A large annual fair for horses, cattle, and sheep, is held here.

3 m. *Longford* stands in the marshy valley of the Avon, a little to the N. of its confluence with the stream from the valley of Chalk. It was built about 1591, by Sir Thomas Gorges, buried under a gorgeous tomb in the N. aisle of the choir of the Cathedral (see p. 100), who married a Danish lady, Helena Snachenberg, who had come over to England in the suite of Princess Cecilia, daughter of Eric, King of Sweden. She became a favourite at Court, and her first husband was William Lord Parr of Kendal, Marquis of Northampton, brother of Queen Katharine Parr, who was induced by her, nearly to his own ruin, to construct his house after the model of the Castle of Uranienberg, designed by Tycho Brahe. He accordingly pulled down an ancient mansion of the Cervingtons, and prepared the ground for the new building; but so great proved the expense of driving piles as a foundation, that Sir Thomas nearly sunk his fortune at the outset. At this juncture came the alarm of the Spanish Armada, when Sir Thomas was appointed governor of Hurst Castle, and, as luck would have it, a Spanish galleon

was soon wrecked near his post. His wife modestly begged but the *hull* of the queen, and in this were found bars of silver and other treasure, ample, and more than sufficient, to complete the intended structure at Longford. The work, therefore, proceeded merrily, and was completed in 1591, at a cost of about 18,000*l*. The architect was Thomas Thorp, who built Holland House. The castle, as it then appeared (the "Castle of Amphialeus" of Sir Philip Sidney's 'Arcadia'), had the singular form of a triangle, enclosing a court of a similar shape, and flanked by circular towers at the angles, the whole being surrounded by a moat filled with water from the Avon. In this form it was surrendered in 1645 to Cromwell, who had mounted a battery opposite the garden front. ("I shall be at Longford House to-night, if God please. I hope the work will not be long" (Oct. 16, 1645). "I came thither this day" (Oct. 17), "and immediately sent them a summons. The governor desired I should send two officers to treat with him. The meeting produced the agreement."—*Cromwell's Letters*.) In 1717 it came into the possession of the present family, the Bouveries, by purchase. The Castle, as it now stands, was altered from the triangle of the Gorges, by a former Lord Radnor, who had intended to rebuild it in the form of a hexagon, but left it unfinished. It has now been finished by the present earl. At each of the corners is a tower. It is chiefly remarkable for its collection of *paintings*. "This collection is not only the first in England as regards Holbein, but, considering the master-works of other schools, and also the large number of valuable pictures it contains, generally speaking, it may justly be considered one of the most important in the country."—*Waagen*. Among them are the following:—

In the *Chapel*—*A. Dürer* (? probably

by *Henry de Bles*, an old Flemish painter): Adoration of the Virgin by Saints George, Agnes, &c.; very good and curious; the female figure on the rt. painted with great feeling for beauty; on the wings St. John the Baptist and Evangelist.—*A. Dürer* (?): the Nativity and Salutation.—*Mabuse*: Children of Henry VII., a repetition of the original picture at Hampton Court. It was in the collection of Charles I.—*Zuccherò*: Queen Elizabeth; very characteristic of the harsh, imperious woman.—*Holbein*: Edward VI.; "too poor a production for the master:" *Waagen*.—*Mabuse*: Virgin and Child.

In the *Long Gallery*—*Murillo*: Ruth and Naomi.—*Guido*: Head of a Magdalen; a picture of a most attractive sweetness, painted with great clearness. 2. Europa and the Bull, a masterpiece, the original of many repetitions.—*Claude*: 2 celebrated pictures known as the Morning and Evening, or Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire. One represents the landing of Æneas in the Bay of Naples by sunrise, "the morning freshness of nature typifying the beginning of the Roman empire;" the other the ruins of the Arch of Titus and the Coliseum, with the sun sinking towards the sea. "Two masterly pictures, with great depth and fulness of colour, combined with softness of gradations:" *Waagen*.—*Rubens*: a large landscape of the desolate country around the Escorial. "Carefully and admirably painted, but not the original of this often-repeated view, which is said to be at Petworth:" *Waagen*. 2. Diana with her Nymphs returning from the Chase; a sketch for the picture at Dresden.—*Seb. del Piombo* (?): St. Sebastian's Martyrdom, after a design by Michael Angelo; carefully executed in very clear colouring; in the background rocks and ruins of singular forms.—*Nicolas Poussin*: the Worship of the Golden Calf, and the Passage of the Red

Sea; capital works, of the artist's best period, scarcely equalled by any in the Louvre.—*Correggio* (?): Venus disarming Cupid; a picture in the style of those in the National Gallery.—*Holbein*: the Ambassadors at Vienna, 2 whole-length portraits, apparently of philosophers, with books, geometrical and musical instruments; "one of the finest works by Holbein in England," says Waagen. 2. Sir Anthony Denny, chamberlain and favourite of Henry VIII. 3. *Ecclampadius*.—*Velasquez*: Adrian Pulido Pareja, admiral of the Spanish Armada; a first-rate portrait.—*Titian*: a whole-length portrait of a General, his helmet on a table; carefully executed in a full, warm, golden tone.—*Vandyck*: Rubens on a Grey Horse; 2. Gaston Duc d'Orléans.—*Carlo Dolce*: Christ crowned with thorns; 2. portrait of himself.—*Gaspar Poussin*: 2 small landscapes.—*Jan Wynants*: a landscape, with figures by *Adrian Van der Velde*.—*W. Van der Velde*: 2 sea-pieces. In this gallery stands a wonderful and probably unique specimen of metal work, viz., a *steel chair*, presented to the Emperor Rudolph II. by the city of Augsburg, where it was made by one Thomas Ruker, in 1574. It is covered by 130 groups of figures in relief, representing events in the history of the Roman Empire from Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the colossal image, and from the landing of Æneas in Italy, down to Rudolph's own time. It was carried off from Prague by the Swedes, brought to England in the 18th century, and sold to the Radnor family. "It is the richest and most tasteful work of the kind I am acquainted with."—*Waagen*.

In the *Green Drawing-room*—*Rubens* (?): his son; a beautiful portrait.—*Titian* (?): Cæsar Borgia; "a most perfidious countenance." *Holbein*: a male portrait, called Luther; broad in treatment, and noble in expression.—*Giorgione* (?), more probably

Paris Bordone: a portrait of Violante, daughter of Palma Vecchio, commonly designated Titian's Mistress.—*Velasquez*: the Moorish Slave.—*Walker*: portrait of Oliver Cromwell.—*Rubens*: Duke of Alva.—*Sir P. Lely*: his own portrait.—*Rubens* (?): portrait of Mary of Medicis, attributed by Waagen to Vandyck.—*H. Van Vliet*: interior of a church, a capital work.—*Vandyck*: Countess of Chesterfield; 2. Countess of Monmouth.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: Anne Countess of Radnor, in a cart-wheel hat; 2. Lady Tilney Long.

In the *Long Parlour*—*Holbein*: portrait of Erasmus; brought to England by the painter, with a letter of introduction from Erasmus to Sir Thomas More. This picture, says Waagen, "is alone worth a pilgrimage to Longford. Seldom has a painter so fully succeeded in bringing to view the whole character of so original a mind as in this instance." The execution is most masterly and careful, even to the accessories—the brown fur for instance; and it is evident that the artist here tried to do his best. 2. Portrait of Peter Ægidius, the traveller: "as animated in conception as it is delicate in individuality."—*Salvator Rosa*: a sea-coast; a picture remarkable for "happy composition, unusual warmth of tone, and spirited treatment."—*Teniers*: Return from the chase; 2. Boors playing at bowls.—*Sir Josh. Reynolds*: James, second Lord Radnor, as a boy.—*Rubens*: Cupids gathering the harvest; "one of the great master's most original and attractive inventions." *Waagen*.—*J. Ruysdael*: Landscape by moonlight.

On an eminence nearly opposite Longford, on the E. side of the river, stood *Ivy Church*, an Augustinian Priory founded by Henry II. within the boundaries of the forest of Clarendon. Some remains of its walls may still be seen in a building which occupies its site, and one of its old

fireplaces, 7 ft. in length and cut from a single block of Portland stone, is in the kitchen of the Green Dragon at *Aldbury*, a village on the Southampton road.

On the return to Salisbury, the small remains of the royal palace of *Clarendon* may be visited, lying 2 m. E. of Salisbury. The drive is a most attractive one. This ancient forest was granted by the Conqueror to Humphrey the Bearded, the first of the family of Bohun, and its palace was celebrated as a residence of our kings from the reign of Hen. I. to that of Edw. III., and as the scene of some important events in our history, particularly of the enacting, by a great council of the nation summoned by Henry II. in 1164, of the famous 'Constitutions of Clarendon,' by which the King, alarmed by the increasing assumptions of Becket and the ecclesiastical order, sought "to settle beyond dispute the main points in contest between the Crown and the Church; to establish thus, with the consent of the whole nation, an English constitution in Church and State."—*Milman, L. C.* Its traditional name of *King John's Palace* has preserved the memory of its selection by that monarch as his favourite abode, but it attained its greatest magnificence in the reign of his successor, Hen. III. At a later period, in 1356, Philip of Navarre did homage here to our Edw. III., as King of France and Duke of Normandy; and, in 1357, after the battle of Poitiers, the glades of Clarendon were enlivened by a royal chase, in which the captives John of France and David of Scotland rode side by side with our king. After the reign of Edw. III. the palace of Clarendon appears to have been neglected, but its forest remained for many years a favourite hunting-ground of our monarchs. In the 14th century this royal domain was granted for a term

to the first Earl of Pembroke. It was mortgaged by Charles I. to Chancellor Hyde, who, it is believed, whilst mortgagee only, but in full and not unreasonable expectation that it would be ultimately his own, took the title of his peerage from this place. To his great mortification, however, Charles II. paid off the mortgage, and bestowed the estate in fee upon George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, whose successor left it by will to his cousin the Earl of Bath. In 1713 it was purchased by Benjamin Bathurst, Esq., an ancestor of the present possessor. *Clarendon Lodge*, a modern Doric mansion (Sir F. H. H. Bathurst), is situated about a mile from the site of the ancient palace, of which there still remains a fragment of flint-wall, now propped by buttresses, and bearing an inscription which enlightens the passing traveller as to the many interesting memories connected with the spot. Clarendon is absurdly supposed by Kennet to derive its name from the camp which crowns a hill to the N. of it, which, to bolster up this derivation, is supposed to have been constructed by the Roman general Constantius Chlorus.

[If any one fond of walking should find himself in Salisbury with a day or two to spare, he may be glad to know how to fill up his time by one or two pleasant expeditions.

1. *Harnham Hill* (fine view) to *Homington*, about 3 m. S. of Salisbury; on reaching the top of *Homington Down*, before going down the steep hill into the village, turn off a little way on the rt. over the down, and look into and along the valley for a very characteristic view of Wiltshire scenery, with its retired villages and their water meadows, nestled in the valleys between the hills. Passing *Homington Ch.* (consecrated 1860), go straight on up the hill for nearly 2 m., till immediately on crossing

Grim's ditch you will come to a fine wood of yews. The road continues on southwards skirting the yews on its left, but it is well worth while to spend half-an-hour or more in exploring this wood. Some of the yews are very large, and the effect is sometimes striking to any one standing under the vaulted space made by the meeting of five or six in a group. The botanist may find things to reward a search, and late in the year the bright green leaves and scarlet berries of the spindle tree (*Euonymus Europæus*) will attract notice. The whole district here is wild and lonely, and the wood was some years back the haunt of a gang of sheep stealers, who were at last detected by the smoke made in cooking some of their spoil. [If you have had enough of walking you may strike through "the yews" towards Odstock Avenue, and return to Salisbury by the route to be mentioned directly.] After coming to the end of the yews, on standing at their S.W. corner, you will look over a wide range of open country. Strike off in a south-westerly direction (or rather S.S.W.) to *Damerham Knoll* (about 9 or 10 m. from Salisbury), which you will recognize by its three clumps of trees; walk along the knoll and begin your return by striking down from the end of the knoll (N.E.) into the village of *Rockborn*, then to *Whichbury*, about a mile further N.E.; there is a fine view from Whichbury Churchyard, and from Whichbury Camp or *Castle Ditches*. Whichbury is a large camp, enclosing, according to Sir R. C. Hoare, fifteen acres and a half, the circumference of the ditch he states to be 1210 yards, and the height of the vallum 39 feet; part of the site is occupied by a farm, and the ramparts and ditch are overgrown by copses. From Whichbury go on (N.E.) to *Mizmaze Hill*, on *Breamore Down*, and amuse yourself by following the windings of the circular maze cut in the turf,

and enjoy the view of the undulating down broken by the frequent clumps of trees, and proceed on (N.W.) to *Gallows Hill*. The barrow or small knoll bearing this ill-omened name is marked by four Scotch firs, one dead and blasted; and on reaching the lonely spot you may believe, if you like, the local tradition, that the place was so named because one of the owners of Breamore, in the time of Charles II., having gambled away great part of his mother's fortune, shot her in one of the rooms at Breamore House, and was hanged on this mound. Grim's Ditch comes up to this mound, and may be seen stretching away to left (S.) for a long way, as yet undefaced by the plough. From Gallows Hill (N.N.W.) to *Clearbury* (marked by its crown of firs), and if the day is fine, you will see easily by the aid of a glass the tower and roof of Christ Church Priory in Hampshire, and the high downs in the Isle of Wight above the Needles, which are more than 25 m. off in direct distance. The red house on the hill side to the left is *Trafalgar*, the seat of Earl Nelson. From Clearbury make your way to *Odstock*, a little village in the valley below, about a mile to the N.W. The most pleasant way is to return a short distance back, and to come down through the fine avenue leading from the woods on the hill west of Clearbury down to Odstock Farm. The farmhouse at Odstock is the left wing of the manor-house of the Webbs, the date 1567 is marked on one of the stones, and some fine trees will be noticed about the grounds, especially the maples in front of the house. The *Ch.* has a picturesque E.E. chancel, and contains a founder's tomb with a mutilated old French inscription, and an altar-tomb without effigies, of the end of the 17th centy. to several of the Webbs; the pulpit has the date 1580, with a couplet testifying to the popularity of Queen Elizabeth.

"God bless and save our royal queen,
The lyke on earth was never seen."

Odstock is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. south of Salisbury, and as you come over the hill and down into Salisbury note and enjoy the view.]

[2. Through *Laverstock*, or by several other routes (if by Clarendon, see below), to the landmark on the down, above the targets of the rifle volunteers. The view is very extensive and characteristic of Wiltshire, though not very picturesque. Martensell Hill, by the Wansdyke, some 20 m. distant (nearly due N.), stands out boldly over the valley of the Avon, and a little to the left of Martensell may be seen with a glass the white horse cut in the turf above Woodborough. *Clarendon* is close by on the next hill below on the rt. (S.E.); on the l. the round head of *Cley Hill*, between Warminster and Longleat, is seen rising over the nearer downs; on the S. is *Clearbury*, marked by its clump of trees; the cathedral is well seen, and the woods by Wilton and Dinton. From this down you may go straight on across the turf to *Chlorus's Camp*, or *Figbury Ring*, which you will mark by a single tree standing within the ring, and can return by the London road if disinclined for further rambling over the downs; Figbury Ring is 3 m. from Salisbury by the road.]

[3. As suggested above, *Clarendon* may be visited first, and it would not be very much out of the way; leave Salisbury by Milford Street or St. Ann's Street, and after exploring Clarendon Woods and the crumbling fragments of the castle, strike down across the valley under the castle, and go straight up the hill on the other side in a direction from the castle. (*E.P.E.*)]

2 m. *Milford Junction*.

5 m. *Alderbury Junction*.

ROUTE 9.

SALISBURY TO WIMBORNE BY DOWNTON AND FORDINGBRIDGE [CRANBORNE, CRANBORNE CHASE].

(*Salisbury and Dorset Railway*.)

This line runs S. along the valley of the Avon, leaving Wiltshire in 9 m. S. of Downton, and joining the Southampton and Weymouth line at West Moors' Junction, $23\frac{1}{4}$ m. It passes on its course, l., *Britford*, the *Moat* (F. M. E. Jervoise, Esq.)—in 3 m. l., *Longford Castle* (see last Rte);—and further to the l. *New Hall*, residence of Alfred Buckley, Esq., who has here a valuable collection of pictures. The house was burnt down June 1881, but the pictures were saved. "The number is considerable, and the majority of them attractive" — *Waagen*. Among them are fine examples of Vandervelde and Claude. On rt. the village of *Nunton*, of which the small church, restored by T. H. Wyatt, contains the monument of J. T. Batt, Esq., from whom General Buckley inherited New Hall;—*Odstock* church is also on the rt. (See previous page.)

4 m. rt. an earthwork, called *Clearbury Ring*, crowns a lofty hill. It is of an oblong shape, containing $5\frac{1}{4}$ acres, protected by a single ditch and rampart about 40 ft. in height, and was formerly attributed to the W. Saxons, particularly to Cerdic who fought with the Britons 4 m. below Charford in 519, captured Old Sarum in 552, and finally completed the conquest of Wiltshire. But though occupied by the Saxons, there is little doubt that these and similar earthworks are of British construction. The spot commands a most extensive view.

5 m. l. *Trafalgar House* (Earl Nelson), built by Sir Peter Vandeput in 1733, and purchased in 1814, under an Act of Parliament for the heirs of the conqueror of Trafalgar. The wings were added by Mr. Dawkins, M.P., and a portico by Revett was built in 1766. The hall, a cube of 30 ft., is decorated with a profusion of stone carving. The walls of one of the rooms were painted by Cipriani. In the park are noble woods of beech, and near the river-side is an ancient chapel, said to have been founded as early as 1147. Adjoining Trafalgar House is *Barford*, now a armhouse, purchased by the late Lord Nelson, and formerly the residence of Lord Feversham. Further to the l., at the foot of Brickworth Down, stands *Standlinch House*, with its prospect house erected by the Eyres, from the foot of which on a clear day Southampton and Netley Hospital may be easily seen.—6 m. *Brickworth House*, formerly a Jacobean mansion, was burnt down a few years since, and the present house is modern. It stands in a deer-park of 20 acres. It was for many years the seat of a branch of the Eyres, but now belongs to Earl Nelson. To the E. of it is the old terraced garden.

$8\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. *Downton* (Pop. 1900) (6 m. from Salisbury by the road), a bright, attractive-looking little place, of great antiquity and early import-

ance, and still retaining a vestige of Saxon times in a mound called the *Moot*, at the E. end of the village. After the Conquest Downton belonged to the bishops of Winchester, who resided in it for many years. The site of their mansion, *Old Court*, is still pointed out on the rt. bank of the river, and there they are supposed to have entertained King John, who is known to have visited Downton on three separate occasions. Downton was a borough returning 2 members, disfranchised by the Reform Act. Among its representatives may be noticed Sir Carew Raleigh, Sir Walter's brother; Sir Charles Pratt, afterwards Ld. Chancellor Camden; Sir W. Scott (Ld. Stowell); and James Brougham. Southey was returned in 1826, but declined to sit.

The *Church* is a large cruciform building with a central tower, superior in size and character to its neighbours, ranging from Norman and E.E. to Perpendicular. The three west bays of the nave are Trans-Norman, the two east bays are E.E. The E.E. transepts, with triplets in their gable walls, have been altered in Perp. times. The finest feature of the Ch. is the chancel, which is Dec. of excellent character, with an E. window of 5 lts. and side windows of 3 lts., one of which is a very fine specimen of a low side window. The sedilia have been much restored. This chancel may be compared with Edington and Bishopston, being perhaps the earliest of the three. The tower arches are fine, with marble shafts. The bowl of the Purbeck marble font is Norman. There are some sumptuous monuments to the Duncombes, including those to Margaret Lady Feversham, by Scheemacker, and (opposite) to her husband Anthony Lord Feversham, d. 1763, and his second wife, d. 1757. The tower (Perp.) was raised 30 ft. by the E. of Radnor 1791, but was reduced to its original height in 1860.

The old *manor-house*, of Eliz. or Jacobean date, but now a farm-house, was for a long time a residence of the Raleighs, and also the birthplace of *Admiral Sir Roger Curtis*, who commanded the gunboats at the siege of Gibraltar. One of the old chimney-pieces, sculptured with shields, may still be seen in the hall.

The *Moot*, will be interesting to the antiquary, presenting to his notice a singular earthwork on which either Saxon parliaments or Saxon courts of justice have been supposed to be held. It is in good preservation, and surrounded by an old-fashioned garden.

W. of Downton, on *Wick Down*, are remains of several complicated circles, forming a *maze*. The hills are crowned by the entrenchment of

Whichbury, or *Castle Ditches* (see Rte. 8), from which the

Grims-ditch may be traced in a winding course of some 6 m. This name occurs in many parts of England, and is generally derived from the Anglo-Saxon *grime*, an evil spirit, as if it signified the *Devil's Ditch*. A less romantic derivation has been given by Dr. Guest,—from *gruma*, a mediæval word meaning boundary. This work has its foss to the S.

The rly., crossing the Avon, leaves Wilts, and enters Hants, and reaches

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Breamore Stat.* The ancient house of Breamore (Sir Edward Hulse) burnt down 1856, has been rebuilt. The *Ch.* with its Norm. doorway is worth a visit. There was a priory of Augustinian Canons here, founded by Baldwin de Redvers, in which Isabella de Fortibus, the last feudal possessor of the Isle of Wight, was buried.

Close to Breamore on the other side of the Avon is *Charford*, formerly *Cerdeford*; without doubt the Cerdicesford of the A.-S. Chronicle; the scene of the great battle fought by Cedric and Cynric with the Ro-

mano-Britons A.D. 519, by which the Celtic power in Wessex was finally broken.

Proceeding down the Avon valley we reach

13 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. FORDINGBRIDGE Stat. (*Inns*: Greyhound, Star, well known to anglers.) (Pop. 3178.) The town is ancient and claims to be anterior to the Conquest. The single object of interest is the *Ch.*, which is large and worth examination. The nave is early Dec. with a good Perp. roof. Perp. clerestory windows, seem to have been inserted in place of the original Dec. ones. There is a small brass to Wm. Bulkeley, d. 1568. The main chancel, E.E. is divided from the N. chancel by early Dec. pillars in groups of 4. The E. window is a triple lancet with singular flat headings to the lights. The roof of the N. chancel deserves especial notice. It is Perp., open, and much enriched. In the churchyard are 2 clipped yews of considerable size. (For the neighbourhood of Fordingbridge see *Handbook to Hants.*)

Soon after leaving Fordingbridge the rly. enters Dorsetshire, and reaches

16 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Daggens Road Stat.*, and crossing Verwood Heath reaches

19 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Verwood Stat.* This is the stat. for the little town of Cranborne.

[rt. 4 m. CRANBORNE (*Inn*: Fleur de Lis; Pop. 2128), an old market-town on the old high road from London to the West, giving the title of Viscount Cranborne to the Marquis of Salisbury. It had anciently a monastery, founded as early as 980, but its name is best known in connection with *Cranborne Chase*, an extensive tract of woodland on the borders of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire. Cranborne is described by Leland as "a praty thorroughfair, and for one streat meatly well builded. There rennith a fleting bek thorrough

it, and passid down thorrough the streat self on the right hond." The *Ch.* is one of the largest and most dignified in the county; 141 ft. in length, built of flint and sandstone. There is a Norm. N. doorway. The fabric of the ch. is E.E.; the heavy sq. tower, 80 ft. high, is Perp. An indulgence was granted for its erection by Aiscough, Bp. of Salisbury, 1440. Over the E. window are the initials of Thomas Parker, abbot of Tewkesbury, d. 1421. There is a good oak carved pulpit and Purbeck marble font. In the chancel is a stately Jacobean monument to the Hoopers, with recumbent effigies, and a tablet to the mother of Bp. Stillingfleet, d. 1647. The parish of Cranborne is one of the largest in the county, being 40 miles in circumference. A priory for Benedictines was founded here by Aylward de Meaux, c. 980, which in 1102, when Tewkesbury was rebuilt by Robert Fitz-Hamon, saw all its monks save 3 transferred to the new foundation, of which it became a cell. There is here a most charming Manor House, a little W. of the ch., belonging to Lord Salisbury, built probably *temp.* Hen. VIII., and embellished by Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, *temp.* James I. The Great Hall was the place of judicature where the hundred baronial and chase courts were held. At the E. end is the dungeon where offenders were often confined. Our Stuart sovereigns often stayed here when hunting in the Chase. James I. was here Aug. 17, 1609, and killed several bucks, and again Aug. 11, 1621, and dated hence three billets to his "sweete boyes" at Madrid, who were there for the Spanish match. Charles I. was here also on a very different business, Oct. 14, 1644, marching with his army "on foot, before the foot" over the downs.

Castle Hill, about 1 m. S.E., is a large and lofty mound with semi-circular rampart and deep fosse be-

hind it, considered to be "unique of its kind in the county." A large tumulus of chalk in the centre, visible for many miles round, marks the grave of a favourite hunter of the late L. D. G. Tregonwell.

Edward Stillingfleet, Bishop of Worcester (died 1699), was born (1635) close to Cranborne, on a small estate possessed by his family.

Cranborne Chase, so named from this town, was in early times an extensive territory, which comprised considerable parts of Dorset, Hampshire, and Wiltshire. Its limits were then Salisbury, Wilton, Tisbury, Kingsettle (near Shaftesbury), Blandford, Wimborne, Ringwood, Fordingbridge, and Downton, in circuit about 80 miles. For many years it was the property of the Earls of Gloucester, but it belonged to the Crown in the reign of John, and from the time of Edward IV. to that of James I. By the latter monarch it was granted to the Earl of Pembroke, from whose descendants it passed through several noble families to its present proprietor Lord Rivers. Cranborne Chase, though disfranchised in 1830 as being a public evil, having been a nursery for all kinds of vice, profligacy, and immorality, as a harbour for smugglers, and converting the adjoining parishes into nests of deerstealers, is still an extensive wooded tract, consisting principally of the Wiltshire hills on the border of this county. As late as 1828 it contained 12,000 deer, and as many as 6 lodges, each of which had its "walk," and was under the management of a Ranger appointed by Lord Rivers. It presents many a charming scene. "Nothing," says the poet Bowles, "can be more wild than this leafy labyrinth, opening at times, and showing, through the hollies and thorns and hazels, some distant woodland hamlet in sunshine. On the bordering downs no object meets the eye, except here and there, at a distance, a small round clump

of trees on summits, called by the people of the country appropriately *a hat of trees*." Over the hills of this forest ran the *British Ridge Way*. But the glory of the Chase has departed, and to the regret of the lover of woodland scenery, large portions have been cleared and submitted to tillage. The ancient *Chase Prison* was at Cranborne.

Cranborne Chase was formerly famous for its deer-hunters. The unlawful sport was practised by the gentlemen of the neighbourhood as a knight errantry. "From 4 to 20" we are told "assembled in the evening, dressed in cap and jack and quarter staff with dogs and nets. Having set the watchword for the night and agreed whether they should stand or run if they should meet the keepers, they proceeded to the chase, set their nets, let slip their dogs to drive the deer into the nets; a man standing at each net to strangle the deer as soon as they were entangled. Frequent desperate bloody battles took place; the keepers, and sometimes the hunters were killed." In Hutchins' 'Dorset' there is a print of a noted Deer-hunter, in his costume, from a portrait painted by Byng, 1720.

1 m. S. is *Edmondshaw*, with a Transition-Norm. *Ch.*, which lost much of its original architecture in a restoration, 1863. The mansion house of the Husseys stands near the *ch.*, a good specimen of the domestic architecture of the period, 1589.

2 m. S.W. is *Wimborne St. Giles's*, the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and birthplace in 1621 of *Anthony Ashley Cooper*, the statesman and leading member of the Cabal ministry, created Baron Ashley, 1661, and Earl of Shaftesbury, 1672—and at a later date of the author of 'The Characteristics,' here educated by Locke, who came into his grandfather's family as doctor, 1666, and some years after-

wards found a wife for his father. The house is a long, low, embattled pile, standing round a quadrangular court, and is chiefly Elizabethan, built 1561, and partly rebuilt in 1661, and renovated by the present eminent possessor. The east wing is more ancient, and probably dates from the 16th cent. It contains many interesting family pictures, including those of *Ld. Chancellor Shaftesbury* in his robes of office, the 2nd Earl and his countess, by Sir Peter Lely, Squire Hastings, &c. The manor came into the possession of the Ashleys in the reign of Edward IV. The heiress of Sir Anthony, who was knighted at the siege of Cadiz, brought it to the Coopers of Rockborne, Hants. The river *Allen* flows through the park. The *Ch.* is modern, rebuilt 1732. It contains a fine crossed effigy of a knight in chain armour, probably Sir John de Plecy, d. 1313; a stately Corinthian monument to Sir Anthony Ashley (d. 1627) and his wife, with recumbent effigies; also a monument to the author of the "Characteristics," the third Earl of Shaftesbury (d. 1712), on which an exquisite female statue executed at Naples represents "Polite literature mourning the death of her most distinguished votary"; to the first earl (d. 1683), with a white marble bust; to the fourth earl (d. 1771) by Scheemaker; to the fifth earl, representing the Fates unwinding the thread of life; and many later memorials to the same family. The pleasure-grounds contain some noble cedars, and a grotto, which is said to have cost 10,000*l.* in 1751. In the kitchen-garden, according to the tradition, that homely but useful vegetable the cabbage was first grown in England.]

The line runs over a wide, desolate tract of level moor, the peaty soil producing little but heath, ling, and gorse, and reaches

23 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *West Moors* Stat. where the

Salisbury and Dorset line joins that from Southampton to Weymouth, midway between *Ringwood* (*Hndbk. to Hants*) and

27 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Wimborne Stat.* (Rte. 13).

ROUTE 10.

SALISBURY TO SHAFTESBURY, BY THE VALE OF CHALK.

This road leaves Salisbury by Harnham Hill, from which there is a very fine view of the Cathedral, and descends into the *Vale of Chalk*, through which runs the little river of *Ebe* or *Stopford Water*. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Dorchester traversed this vale, probably taking the line of an old British trackway.

3 m. *Combe Bissett*. The *Ch.*, cruciform, with aisles and a tower over the S. transept, well built of stone, stands picturesquely on an eminence. In the nave are two Norman arches. The E.E. font has been retouched.

[Below Combe Bissett are the villages of *Homington*, *Odstock*, *Nunton*. See Rte. 8.]

4 m. *Stratford Tony*, where is a small mean *Ch.*, taking its distinguishing name from the family of Toni, the founder of which, Ralph, came over with the Conqueror as standard-bearer, and fought at the battle of

Hastings. Robert, the last baron, was at Caerlaverock, 1300.

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bishopston*. The *Ch.* will well repay a visit: it is cruciform, of some size, and much interest. The chancel and S. transept are very good examples of late Dec. c. 1360, with fine vaulted roofs and rich flamboyant windows. Note the E. window with its drip moulding continued up to the unglazed opening (a curved triangle foliated), which lights the roof; the side windows of unusual length, the unique S. chancel door with its ogee crocketed canopy and vaulted recess, and the singular external cloister, or whatever else it is to be called, on the S. wall of the S. transept: it is part of the original structure, and the visitor may amuse himself with conjectures as to its purpose and intention, remembering, however, that the two tombs of different dates placed one upon the other inside it will afford him no clue, as they were only a few years ago removed to their present position from the interior of the church. The N. transept, though not equal to the S., contains some features worth noticing, especially the rich tomb in the N. wall. Examine also the arch which opens into the S. transept, and the apparent remains of a Norman arch above it. The chancel has fine sedilia. The nave is later and inferior. There is a small brass to John de Wykeham, presented to the Rectory by William of Wykeham, 1379. The church has been restored in a careful and loving spirit, though perhaps not quite in accordance with the critical requirements of modern ecclesiology, by a former rector, the Rev. G. A. Montgomery (killed, 1842, by the fall of the unfinished vaulting of East Grafton church), whose elaborate tomb by Pugin is in the S. wall of the S. transept; the carvings on the pulpit are said to have been brought by him from Spain. The church plate, presented by John Earle, successively

Bp. of Worcester and Salisbury after the Restoration, and formerly rector of Bishopston, is probably of Flemish manufacture.—(*E. P. E.*) The parish takes its name from the Bishops of Winchester, who were lords of the manor till the Reformation, when it passed into the hands of the present owners, the Earls of Pembroke.

8 m. *Broad Chalk* has a large cruciform church, with a central tower and S. porch. The chancel and N. transept are E.E.; the rest of the church of the 15th century. A memorial window to Lord Herbert of Lea has been erected by his widow. *Broad Chalk* was the birthplace of John Bekinsel, a learned Wykehamist, a friend of Leland, and author of a work on "Defence of the Supremacy of Hen. VIII," and for some years the residence of John Aubrey, the antiquary.

Its late incumbent, Dr. Rowland Williams, has left a name as a scholar and theologian which will not soon be forgotten.

2½ m. S.W. lies the little village of *Bower* or *Burgh Chalk*, till lately a chapelry to *Broad Chalk*. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with the tower to the S., and is a very interesting specimen of primitive E.E. The chancel was rebuilt, and an aisle and memorial window added, 1866, in memory of Lord Herbert of Lea by his widow."

9 m. The church of *Fifield Bavent* is the smallest in the county, and almost one of the smallest in England. The parish derives its name from having originally contained five hides of land, and from the family Bavent, who were its Norman owners.

The road passes through

12 m. *Ebbesborne* or *Ebelesborne Wake*, which takes its name from the Ebele brook. The *Ch.*, restored 1877, has a good W. tower bearing the arms of the Wake family, the former owners.

13 m. *Alvediston*, lying in a deep

hollow under the steep flank of Whitesheet Hill. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with tower at west end. In the S. Trans. or Gawen's aisle an effigy in complete armour rests on an altartomb. ½ m. W.N.W. are the remains of *Norrington*, once the mansion of the Gawens, one of the oldest names in Wilts. *Norrington* was their seat from 1377 to 1658, when it passed to the Wyndhams. Its ancient importance is attested by the remains of the formal terraces and gardens, and the wreck of the old hall, which appears to have been built about the time of Rich. II. "*Norrington*," writes Mr. Parker, "is a tolerably perfect manor-house of the 15th cent., with the hall and porch perfect. The hall windows are good Perp., and the doorway of the porch has a fine set of mouldings with shafts and deep hollows." The rest is about the time of Elizabeth. The hall is divided into several rooms. There is a cellar with a good vaulted roof, and a so-called "banquet-chamber" with a fireplace of the date of Elizabeth.

The road passes under the high chalk down known as *Whitesheet Hill*, along the summit of which formerly ran the high London road, and reaches

17½ m. *Berwick St. John*, under *Winkelbury*, an entrenchment of 12½ acres, girt by a single ditch and rampart 39 ft. high. Beyond are the far-extending heights of *Cranborne Chase*. The *Ch.* is cruciform (restored 1861 by the late rector), with a well-designed, low Perp. tower. The ceiling bears the Tudor rose, and the arms of the Willoughby de Brokes, one of which family was rector here, 1485–1506. In the S. aisle may be seen 2 monuments, with effigies in chain armour. They are supposed to be those of Sir Robert Lucy in the N. Trans., and John de Hussey in the S. Trans., Knights Templars in the reign of Edw. I.

A former rector, Rev. John Gane, left a bequest, 1735, for ringing the great bell of the ch. at 8 o'clock every night for $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour during the winter months to guide travellers over the Wiltshire Downs. *Fern House*, the seat of Sir T. Grove, Bart., was rebuilt 1811. The estate has been in the family since 1563.

3 m. S. in Cranborne Chase is *Tollard Royal*. The ch. contains a fine effigy in chain mail of Sir W. Payne of East Lulworth, d. 1388, who married the heiress.

Our route quits the Vale of Chalk; and leaving the *Donheads* and *Sticklepath Hill*, with the *Castle Rings* on the rt., enters Dorsetshire, and reaches

24 m. *Shaftesbury* (Rte. 12).

Ashcombe, 5 m. S.E. (in Cranborne Chase), an estate formerly of Lord Arundell, and now of Sir T. Grove, is a very romantic spot. It is in a deep circular dell, from the centre of which rises a small hill. Upon this isolated knoll stands a relic of the old mansion, in the midst of an amphitheatre of woods. The only outlet is by a steep road carried up the heights.

ROUTE 11.

SALISBURY TO WESTBURY; BY WILTON, HEYTESBURY; AND WARMINSTER (LONGLEAT).

(*Great Western Railway.*)

Leaving Salisbury, the *Gt. Western Rly.* runs side by side with the *S.W. Rly.* to Yeovil and Exeter as far as $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wilton Stat.*, where it crosses the *Wylve*, and continues up the valley of the river to the watershed at Warminster.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *South Newton*. The *Ch.* restored by Lady Herbert of Lea.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Wishford Stat.* The village of mud-built thatched cottages is prettily wooded. The *Ch.* is rich in monuments worth notice, particularly the stately tomb of Sir Richard Grobham, steward of the Gorges family of Longford, 1629, and of Thomas Bonham, 1473, a former lord of this manor, whose effigy is represented in the habit of a pilgrim. According to the absurd local legend, he was the father of 7 children, who were all born at one birth, after his return from a 7 years' pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and were brought together to the christening in a sieve, which was hung up in the church as a memorial of the event. An unnamed female figure lies in a low recess in the N. wall.

To the l. rises the hill of

Grovely or *Graveling Wood*, formerly one of the largest woods in the county, and a forest as late as the reign of Elizabeth. It is remarkable for a number of ancient earthworks. On the down immediately opposite *Wishford* are *Grovely Works*, the remains of a *British town*, in a crescent

form, extending a mile in length and occupying 60 acres; further to the W., (to the S. of Little Langford) are *Grovely Castle*, encircled by a single ditch and rampart, but, in the opinion of Sir R. C. Hoare, of no very high antiquity; and *East Castle*, to the S. of Steeple Langford, a work remarkable for its small size ($\frac{3}{4}$ acre), and for containing a central mound.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of East Castle is

Hanging Langford, evidently a British camp; and *Bilbury Ring* (due S. of Wylve Stat.), now nearly destroyed, a farm having been built on the site. It was fortified by double and triple ramparts, and enclosed a still older work in its area of 17 acres. On the S. side of Grovely, on Barford Down, is another entrenched village, called *Hamshill Ditches*, and through the heart of the wood runs the Roman road from Old Sarum to Uphill on the Bristol Channel; $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Old Sarum at the E. corner of Grovely Wood the pitched causeway is visible. Grovely is the property of the Earl of Pembroke. "In old times the tenants and others who claimed custom in the wood used to go in a daunce to Salisbury Cathedral on a certain day, and there make their clayme in these words, 'Grovely, Grovely, and all Grovely.'" "The circuit of this wood," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "is an *iter* rich in food for the antiquary, and interesting to every eye that is not totally indifferent to the many varied and beautiful views which it continually affords."

A pleasant excursion for a pedestrian is from Wishford Station to ascend the Downs to Grovely Works, and then follow the undulations of the Downs, exploring the camps by the way, to Hanging Langford, or further, if he feels inclined; then to turn into Grovely and walk along the broad open drive to Wilton, and so back to Salisbury; the view of the Cathedral and the surrounding country from the hill-side is very fine.

Just beyond Wishford, rt., the valley of the Winterbourne opens and affords a glimpse of

Stapleford, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Wishford Station N. The *Ch.* well deserves a visit. It is cruciform, and has a fine Norm. N. door and very good Norm. arcade within. The piscina and sedilia deserve notice. *Old Castle Ground* is a moated site adjoining a meadow called *the Park*. For the villages up this stream, *Berwick St. James*, *Winterbourne Stoke*, *the Orchestons*, &c. (see Rte 6).

$7\frac{3}{4}$ m. Close to the riv., rt., overshadowed with elms, is the small Dec. church of *Little Langford*, restored by Lady Herbert, where the Norm. S. door with a rude bas-relief, and a Jacobean tomb, deserve notice.

$8\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Hanging Langford* is close to the line rt., and *Steeple* (or *Staple*, i. e. Market) *Langford*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. This *Ch.* contains a rich altar-tomb to the family of Mompesson, and a lively portraiture of the Rev. J. Collier, rector, d. 1635. In taking the chancel down lately a Purbeck marble slab with the figure of a man with a horn slung round him was found. In the troubles in Charles I.'s time the rector, the Rev. J. Collier, was ejected as "ignorant, scandalous, and inefficient," leaving his wife and 11 children without provision in a time of deep snow. They took shelter for 6 nights in a barn, and the children gathered sticks in Grovely Wood. Two of his sons joined in Penrude's abortive attempt; and, being taken, were sold as slaves in Jamaica.

$11\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Wylve Stat.* There is a picturesque view of the wooded hill of Bathampton from the bridge over the river. *Wylve Ch.* was rebuilt 1844, but retains a fine E.E. eastern triplet, and contains an oaken pulpit brought from Old Wilton Ch. It has a low pinnaced tower.

On the old road from Salisbury to Warminster, immediately N., was the once celebrated *Deptford Inn*, the

halfway house, now pulled down. The garden commands a pleasing view. In the hollow lies *Bedhampton* (properly *Bathampton*), the seat of H. N. Jarrett, Esq., and on the rt. a bold and lofty down rises abruptly from the road. 2 m. N.E., on the highway to Stonehenge and Amesbury, is

Yarnbury Camp, a very perfect and interesting work, placed on the summit of a solitary eminence of the great Plain, the undulating surface of which is seen from it in a panoramic view. It is circular, and of great size, the entrenchments being two banks and ditches, the inner about 50 ft. deep. The principal entrance faces the E., and is defended by a complicated outwork. Another entrance on the S. should be noticed for its complete preservation. E. of Yarnbury are *Staple Langford Downs*, with singular and diversified earthworks and mounds, probably the sites of huts. On the 4th of October Yarnbury is the scene of an annual fair for the sale of sheep and colts. The old road from Salisbury to Bath (now but little used) skirted the camp on the E., and its course is still marked by many of the milestones. $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. is *Oldbury*, or *Codford Circle*, marking the summit of a hill by its earthen bank. The eye ranges over a wide uncultivated country.

1 m. S. of Wylve is *Bilbury Ring*; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther the British camp of *Hanging Langford* and the *Dinton Beeches*; and, about 2 m. towards Hindon, *Stockton Works*, the site of a British town, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a station on their road from Old Sarum. *Fonthill* is 10 m. distant.

Fisherton Delamere, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W., is so named after its ancient lords, the Delameres of Nunney Castle, Somerset. *Fisherton House*, seat of L. Birch, Esq., is said to occupy the site of their mansion. The remains of terraces are to be traced in the garden. The

ry. continues up the valley, here broad and green, with the chalk hills on each side, to

$11\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. *Stockton*. *Stockton House* (Capt. A. G. Yeatman-Biggs) is a fine mansion embowered in woods. It was begun by John Topp in the reign of Elizabeth, and finished in that of James I., the arms of both these sovereigns appearing on the ceiling of the great bedroom. Most of the principal rooms retain their old wainscots, chimney-pieces, and ceilings. The drawing-room upstairs is a fine example of Elizabethan decoration. The manor of Stockton belonged in Alfred's days to a noble named Wulfhere, but for some act of disloyalty was forfeited to the Crown. Edward the Elder granted it to an Ethelwulf, who gave it to his wife Deorwith, by whom it was bestowed on St. Swithin's, Winchester, and it was held by the Topps under that convent. The exterior is rather plain, and the interior has been partly modernized; but it contains a splendid sitting-room and bed-room with gorgeous plaster ceilings, inscribed with E. R. The *Ch. Trans. Norm.*, with an E. E. chancel, with eastern triplet falsified by restoration, and Perp. clerestory. It contains more monuments than are usually found in a village church. There are no fewer than six in the chancel, but none earlier than 1600, except a female effigy her feet resting on a dog, found half-buried in the S. wall under a monumental arch of the 14th cent. In the N. aisle there is a fine canopied tomb with recumbent effigies to the builder of Stockton House (d. 1632) and his wife Mary, with other memorials of the Topps. In the S. aisle are an altar-tomb and other memorials of the families of Poticary and Greenhill. There is an almshouse founded by the same John Topp, 1641, a picturesque group of buildings round three sides of a court, completed by a coped wall and gateway. Stockton

Farmhouse is an interesting house, built about the same time as the Manor House, by Jerom Poticary, one of the family of rich clothiers settled here. It preserves a portion of an older half-timbered building.

14½ m. *Codford Station*. There are two parishes l., the straggling village of *Codford St. Mary's* (the *Ch.*, nearly rebuilt 1843, has a tomb with effigies of Sir Richard Mompesson, a Norm. font, and a communion-table made out of the old pulpit of *St. Mary's*, Oxford); and the more compact one of *Codford St. Peter's*. The *Ch.* of the latter is Norman, aisleless, with a zigzag moulded chancel arch. The Rectory was given to *St. John's Coll.*, Oxford, by Abp. Laud. It contains a font coeval with the *ch.*, a piscina and sedilia.

About 1 m. to the rt. is a curious earthwork, called *Oldbury*, or *Codford Circle*. It occupies the summit of a hill commanding a most interesting view. E. of *Codford St. Mary*, on a projecting spur of the down, 8 venerable yews mark the site of a hermitage founded by Henry de Mareys, 1317. S., on the rt. bank of the *Wylde*, lies the pretty little village of

Sherrington, remarkable for a moated mound, W. of the small *Ch.* (partly E.E., restored 1844) 100 ft. in diameter at top, on which stood a castle of the wealthy and powerful Giffards, whose property in *Plantagenet* times extended over many parishes in this county. Beyond *Codford St. Peter* the valley expands considerably.

Boyton Manor (Edmund D.V. Benett, Esq., lately occupied by H.R.H. the Duke of Albany) will be observed on the l. of *Codford Stat.* Here, in the days of Hen. II., and for many subsequent years, was the seat of the Giffards.

Boyton Ch. (*St. Mary*), well restored by the late Prebendary Fane, deserves notice. It is a fine example of E.E. and early Dec. The

tower stands to the N., and has a very fine E.E. doorway. The S. or *Lambert Chapel* has some fine Dec. windows, especially that to the W. (a circle containing 3 triangles), two altar-tombs, one with the effigy of a cross-legged knight in chain armour, Sir Alexander Giffard, the companion of William Longespée, the crusader, and one of his knights in the fatal conflict of Mansoura, from which he escaped to fulfil the dying wishes of his friend; the other, without effigy, but richly adorned with canopied niches, perhaps to Lady Margaret, in whom the house of Giffard expired. A large slab of Purbeck marble, with the matrix of a brass in the N. chancel, on being removed, was found to cover a decapitated skeleton, probably that of the last male Giffard, beheaded at Gloucester for his share in the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion, temp. Ed. II. The *ch.* was probably built by Bp. Giffard. There are good piscinae and sedilia both in the chancel and S. chapel. The estate afterwards belonged to Maltravers, then to the Earl of Arundell, who, 1572, sold it to Rd. Lambert, Ald. of London. The house was built by Thos. Lambert, 1618. The late owner was the distinguished botanist, Mr. Bourke Lambert, who discovered on this estate 2 plants previously unknown to the British flora—*Carduus tuberosus* and *Centaurea nigrescens*, the former in *Great Ridgewood*—and here collected from all parts of the world a most valuable Hortus Siccus, which consisted of more than 30,000 species. Between Boyton and Corton grounds the country people point out a pit called *Chapel* or *Chettle Hole*, as the spot where a church was once mysteriously engulfed. A little spring bubbles up from it. (*Cetel* is A.-S. for a caldron.) The *Corton Beech* is a tree 14 ft. in circumference.

14¾ m. rt., *Upton Lovel*, bears the name of its ancient lords, the lords of *Castle Cary*, Somerset. The small

aisleless *Ch.*, with traces of Norm. work, contains the effigy of one (perhaps) of this family on an altar-tomb in his armour; and also a brass, the demi-figure of a priest, c. 1430, and a circular font. Here is an endowed Grammar School. The Wily is here spanned by an ingeniously constructed bridge, by J. Chapman of Frome. Each parapet is formed by trussing a beam of red pine.

15½ m. *Knook Ch.*, has a Norm. S. door with carved tympanum, and a Norm. chancel arch.

17¼ m. *Heytesbury Stat.* (*Inns*: Angel, Red Lion; Pop. 1103.)

The Anglo-Saxons called it *Hegtre-desbyri*, which, in Domesday Book, the Norman clerk converted into *Hestrebe*. Once a parliamentary borough, it is now an inconsiderable place, with a small manufacture of broadcloths and kerseymeres, and in 1832 it was disfranchised.

The property here, under various subdivisions of *East, West, and South H.*, belonged, from Hen. II. to Rich. II., to the families of Dunstanville, Montfort, Badlesmere, and Burghersh. They were then united, and from Rich. II. to Hen. VIII. were held by the elder house of Hungerford. In that reign it was forfeited by the attainer of Walter Hungerford, who had been created "Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury." The Hungerfords possessed this place before they bought Farley Castle; and some of them preferred living here. Their house at Heytesbury has been long since taken down, but in the present offices still remains an old stone shield, bearing the arms of Courtenay impaling Hungerford. They were followed by the families of Wheeler, Moore, and Ashe. By marriage of the heiress of Wm. Ashe, the estate passed in 1750 to Pierce A'Court, Esq., ancestor of the present owner, Lord Heytesbury.

The *Ch.* (restored by Butterfield: re-opened 1867) was made collegiate by Jocelyn, Bp. of Sarum, c. 1165,

with a dean and 4 prebendaries. It is cruciform, chiefly E.E. The nave was rebuilt in the Perp. style, probably by the Hungerfords, c. 1404. During the restoration the aisles of choir have been rebuilt, the original pitch of the roofs restored, and the N. transept, which had been turned into a family vault, thrown open to the ch. Across the arch is a stone screen with badges of the Hungerford family. A new font was given by Rev. R. Beadon. The E. window is internally a triplet, with only the centre lancet pierced. In the chancel are 14 oaken stalls. In the S. transept is a tablet to the memory of Mr. Cunnington, whose antiquarian researches formed the groundwork of Sir R. C. Hoare's 'Ancient Wiltshire.' He resided for many years at Heytesbury, where he died in 1810.

Heytesbury Hospital, a red brick building, forming 3 sides of a square, originally founded for 12 poor men and one woman, and a *Custos*, by Walter Lord Hungerford, Lord High Treasurer of England, who died in 1449, and his son, Robert Lord Hungerford, and completed by his widow, Margaret Lady H. and Botreaux, is endowed with lands. The Hungerford arms are over the entrance. The *Parsonage Farm* contains a fine room of Jacobean date, now divided into two, with rich plaster ceiling and carved fireplace.

On the N. side of the town is *Heytesbury Park*, the seat of Lord Heytesbury. Its woods clothe the base of Cotley Hill, and sweep in dark plantations of fir to the neighbouring heights. The mansion is modern and perfectly plain, but it contains some fine pictures of the Italian, Spanish, French, and Netherlandish schools, particularly of the Spanish. In the drawing-room—*Roger de Bruges*: Descent from the Cross.—*Guercino*: Genius of Painting.—*Raphael*: Holy Family (belonged to Card. Mazarin), "an early and careful copy, somewhat hard in form and

dark" in colour."—*Waagen*. *Parmigiano*: Christ and St. J. Bapt., belonged to Mad. Murat.—*Albano*: Cupid bending his bow, a copy from Coreggio.—*Teniers*: several.—*Paul Veronese*: Moses in the Bulrushes; the Baptism, elevated in sentiment, and powerful in colour.—*Luca Giordano*: Philip II. examining the plan of the Escorial, a sketch for the picture in the Escorial, rich composition, conceived as a landscape.—*Velasquez*: the sketch for "los Borrachos" in the gallery at Madrid; full of spirit and expression, in the coarse reality of the powerful peasants' heads.—*J. Juannes*: good copy of the Ecce Homo by Rogier Van de Weyden the younger; 2. Mater Dolorosa; "of portrait-like but noble character; of pale tone and intensely moving expression, not a copy. One of the best specimens of the early Spanish school I have ever seen," *Waagen* (companion picture).—*B. Luini*: the Baptism; "among the few pictures on a small scale by the master, this is the most beautiful I know:" *Waagen*.—*B. Schidone*: Virgin and Child, with St. John and Joseph.—*Murillo*: St. John and the Lamb; 2. painted at Seville for Count Almodovar, "las Gallegas" (Gallician girls), a well-known picture, "of animated conception and admirable drawing:" *Waagen*.—*Zurbaran*: 2 masterly pictures of Sts. Jerome and Benedict, saints, life-size.—*Guerchino*: the Magdalen, "of unusual nobility of form and expression."—*Jan Van Eyck*: St. Francis receiving the Stigmata, "a finely preserved little gem:" *Waagen*. In the Ante-room—*G. Poussin*: a grand mountainous Landscape.—*Zurbaran*: St. Francis; 2. a Saint. In the Dining-room—*A. Cano*: the Magdalen.—*Van Helmont*: May Day; Condemnation of a Deserter.—*Ribera*: St. Jerome.—*G. Romano*: Marriage of St. Catherine.—*Murillo*: Virgin and Child, with SS. Joseph and John.—*N. Poussin*: View of Ponte Molle; 2. Herminia

seeking refuge with the Shepherds.—*Claude*: 2 small Landscapes, "delicate and clearly coloured works, of his best time."—*S. Rosa*: portrait of a man.—*Zurbaran*: the Infant Christ on an ass, with Joseph and St. John, "coarsely realistic in conception, but the heads animated and of masterly treatment."—*C. Cignani*: Charity.—*Domenichino*: a Landscape, with St. John preaching.—*Vanni*: Flight into Egypt.

In the *Drawing Room* is preserved Charles I.'s cap, given by him to Hen. Vernon, Esq. of Farnham, at whose house he passed the night on his way to Carisbrook.

The *Library* contains family portraits of the Ashes and A'Courts; on the *Staircase* are portraits of the Worsleys and Holmes from Appuldurcombe, in the Isle of Wight.

At *Greenhill*, in the adjoining parish of *Sutton* (Col. Everett), are also some excellent pictures. By *Paul Potter*: a Landscape with cattle and sheep, of great power both in execution and colour.—*J. Van Ostade*: a village scene, with travellers; "a rich composition, in a deep glowing tone, and of solid impasto:" *Waagen*.—*Jan Steen*: a domestic after-dinner scene in a garden bower, the dessert on the table, one of the best pictures of the master.—*B. Denner*: portrait of an old woman, of which there are several repetitions.—*Teniers*: a Dispute at Cards.—*Van der Helst*: portrait of a young girl.—*Ucchterfeld*: 2 girls at the piano, "a charming picture by this second-rate master."—*Waagen*. Of these Dr. Waagen says, "some would take an honourable place even in the largest gallery."

At *Sutton Veny* (miscalled *Fenny*), about 1½ m. from *Heytesbury Station*, is an old parsonage, in which may be recognised the remains of a house of the 14th cent. in the windows of the hall and buttery-hatch. A new *Ch.* has been built at the expense of the Everett family by Mr. J. L.

Pearson, with a stone-vaulted chancel and a lofty spire, which will repay a visit. The old church is preserved as a ruin.

Imber, 5 m. N. of Heytesbury, is entombed among the chalk hills, in one of the most lonely situations conceivable. A local rhyme runs—

“Imber, on the Down,
Four miles from any town.”

It can only be approached by a track-way across the turf, and is almost inaccessible in winter. The little *Perp. Ch.*, which suffered restoration in 1831, contains 2 cross-legged effigies (perhaps) of the family of Rous.

At Heytesbury the valley has expanded to a considerable width, the downs sweep to it with their grassy sides in bold slopes, and the singular eminence of *Cley Hill* rises midway where it opens on the plain at Warminster.

Cotley Hill rises immediately above Heytesbury, and commands one of the finest panoramic views in the county. It is remarkable for a tumulus crowning the very summit, and formerly encircled by a low bank and inner ditch, which in part remain to the present day.

Knock Castle is another ancient work, about 2 m. N.E. of the town. It is a single-ditched entrenchment, supposed to have been originally a British village, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a summer camp, British and foreign pottery, native implements, and Roman coins having been found in it. To the N. of it are remains of another British settlement, and the *Old Ditch*, which runs for 11 m. across Salisbury Plain in the direction of Tilshead and Orcheston. The site of these villages, says Sir R. C. Hoare, “is decidedly marked by great cavities and a black soil; and the attentive eye may easily trace out the lines of houses, and the streets, or rather the hollow ways conducting to

them.” Long barrows are very numerous on these hills.

Proceeding on our route:—

rt., *Scratchbury*, a magnificent and well-preserved specimen of a British camp, supposed to derive its name from the Celtic word *Crech* or *Crechen*, a hill. The area (blue in summer, with campanula and scabious) occupies 40 acres. It is of an irregular form, following the outline of the hill, encompassed by a ditch and rampart in places 66 ft. in height. The entrances are three, the principal one, opening to the S.E., being fortified with outworks. Within the area is an inner camp and several tumuli. The railroad runs at the foot of the hill. Separated from this work by a deep valley is the camp of

Battlesbury, another entrenchment attributed to the Britons. You ascend to it by a giants' stairway, the slope of the intervening valley being formed in a series of parallel terraces, called “lynchets,” following the ascent as exactly as if made by the hand of man. The precise origin of these “lynchets” (or “lanchardes,” as sometimes pronounced), is not known. That cattle could have made such accurately parallel and regular walks is impossible. These certainly have (as many lynchets have) more the appearance of having been produced by the action of water. It is undoubtedly to the gradual effect of tides in some ancient geological sea, that the downs themselves owe the graceful slopes which they present. Some harder layer of the chalk has resisted that action, and hence probably these singular projecting banks. In some instances they may have been formed, or altered by the plough. On the S. and S.E. the height and abruptness of the hill render this camp almost inaccessible; on the N. it is more easily approached, and there the defences are double. The area encircled is more than 23 acres,

and the rise of the ramparts 60 ft. In the view, which is most extensive, the pretty knoll of *Cophead*, the singular outlying eminence of *Cley Hill*, the town of Warminster, and woods of *Longleat*, are interesting features.

Near the hamlet of *Boreham*, 2 m. W., remains of an earthwork called the *Berries*—a corruption of “Bury”—mark the site of a Roman station on the road from Old Sarum to Bath. Pottery and numerous coins have been found on the spot, and at *Pitmead*, lower down the river, the tessellated pavements of 2 villas. The road is supposed to have proceeded down the valley as far as Stapleford, and thence across the downs to Old Sarum.

200 yards north of Boreham is the *King-Barrow*, so called as one of the largest in Wiltshire. It is 206 ft. in length, 56 in width, and 15 in height. It was opened in 1800, when two human skeletons and the bones of a horse, together with the horns of a stag, the tusks of a boar, and fragments of pottery, were found in it.

20 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Warminster Stat.*, overshadowed by the heights of *Arn Hill* and *Cophead rt.*

WARMINSTER (*Inns* : Bath Arms ; Lamb ; Pop. 6998), the seat of Quarter Sessions, Visitations, &c., with a Saturday market, to which the ready-money dealing in corn, and a considerable malting business, give importance. It is a place of great antiquity, said to derive its present name from a “minster” or church which stood on the banks of the *Were*. The site of this ancient church is traditionally supposed to have been at a place called the nunnery, and there is a so-called *Nuns’ Path*, a track ascending the neighbouring hill ; but there is no record of any monastic foundation having existed here. At the period of the Conquest, Warminster belonged to and was held by the Crown ; but the tenant under the

Crown held the manor by the service of providing the King and his suite with one night’s lodging when they visited the neighbourhood. This right was claimed in 1663 by Charles II., and paid by Sir James Thynne of Longleat, and almost in our own days by George III., who, with the Queen and Princesses, was entertained by the lord of the manor of Warminster at Longleat. Warminster is a clean, airy town with one long street of white stone houses. It stands in a beautiful country, situated at the entrance of a valley under the escarpment of the downs, which here expose their flanks in long perspective, or rise from the plain in isolated knolls.

The Mauduits were lords of Warminster from Hen. I. to Richd. II.

The cruciform *Ch.* possesses little interest. It has a low, pinnacled, central tower. The S. or Lady-chapel was built by the Mauduits temp. Hen. VII. In 1626 an order was made to repair the church, “which weeps many a fresh tear for her decayed house, especially when the wind is in the west.” It underwent a destructive restoration in the taste of the day in 1723. The chapel of *St. Lawrence*, on the S. side of the principal street, was a chantry founded temp. Ed. I. by two sisters named Hewitt, bought by the townsmen at the Reformation. It has been rebuilt, with the exception of the late Dec. tower crowned with a spirelet.

The *Town Hall*, built by the Marquis of Bath from designs by Blore in the Jacobean style, 1830, contains Courts for the Quarter Sessions and other county business. There are other well-designed buildings of public utility, as Savings Bank, National Schools, &c.

The *Free School* was founded by Thomas Lord Weymouth 1707. Bp. Huntingford was one master of it, and at a later period Dr. Arnold was a pupil here, under Dr. Griffith. He

"long retained a grateful remembrance of the miscellaneous books to which he had access in the school library at Warminster, and when, in his Professorial Chair, he quoted Dr. Priestley's 'Lectures on History,' it was from his recollection of what he had read there when he was 8 years old."—*Stanley's Life of Arnold*. Hampden, Bp. of Hereford, was also educated at Warminster by the then vicar.

Two of the royal regiments, under Kirke and Trelawney, were posted at Warminster in 1688, while Churchill and his chief accomplices were at Salisbury. "All was ripe for the execution of the long-meditated treason. Churchill advised the King (James II.) to visit Warminster, and inspect the troops stationed there. James assented. The coach was at the door of the bishop's palace at Salisbury, when a violent bleeding at the nose compelled him to postpone his journey."—*Macaulay*.

Among places to be visited are *Cley Hill* and the camps of *Scratchbury* and *Battlesbury*; and, by the angler, *Sheerwater* [A.-S. *Scir*, clear], rt. of the road to Longbridge Deverel, where there is excellent fishing. It is a pretty little lake of 45 acres deeply embosomed in wood, and belongs to the Marquis of Bath, by whose orders permission to fish is readily given.

The conspicuous barrow on the wooded knoll of *Cophead*, close to the Stat. N., was opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who found in it a skeleton with beads and flints, and the horns of deer. There are earthworks on Arn Hill, the adjacent eminence. In Southley Wood, S. of Warminster, there is a small square earthwork, called *Robin Hood's Bower*.

At *Corsley*, W. of Warminster, the manor-house, near the church, now a farmhouse, was the dower-house of the widow of Sir John Thynne, who married Sir Carew Raleigh, brother of Sir Walter. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1829.

The Church of *Upton Scudamore*, 2 m. N.E.E., possesses a font and porch of the Norman period.

Cley Hill. There are really two hills, but the principal one may be climbed on the way to Longleat, turning off to the rt., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. of level road and another $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of field-path will bring you to the foot of it. It is so singularly shaped as almost to appear at a distance artificial, but it is an isolated outlying member of the chalk range, and is 900 ft. high above low-water mark at Bristol. A bank and a ditch of great antiquity encircle it midway, and at the top, which commands a view as extensive as it is beautiful, are two barrows. The larger one, when opened, presented ears of wheat still recognisable, charred wood and broken pottery. The other decided indications of burnt bones which had been previously disturbed. A beacon was set upon Cley Hill at the time of the Spanish Armada. On the S. the eye ranges over the woods of Longleat; on the E. along the boundary of Salisbury Plain; and on the W. over a cultivated country to the distant heights about Bath and the indented line of the Mendips. Cley Hill is thought by some antiquaries to have been the "*Æglea*" where Alfred halted one night on his way to fight the battle of "*Ethandun*," supposing that place to have been Edington, a few miles off.

The chief point of interest near Warminster is *Longleat*, the seat of the Marquis of Bath, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. It is shown to the public every Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 11 and 4. (A carriage from the Bath Arms will take you there and bring you back for 7s. 6d.) The entrance of the domain is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the house. After entering, the road rises 1 m. between wooded and ferny slopes to the boundary of the Home Park, beyond the gate of which, another drive to the l. leads to the point called *Heaven's Gate*, where

the traveller beholds spread out below a forest region. From this spot the House is well seen, standing in the foreground of the wide landscape, and in almost the lowest part of the fine domain, and is of that mixed Italian and English style which prevailed at the end of the 16th century. Its venerable fronts of lichen stone are pierced by numerous large windows, and are ornamented with pilasters and cornices: and on the roof are turrets and colossal statues. The flower gardens lie at the N. and E. sides of the house, divided from the Deer Park, a noble slope of lawn and wood, by a large sheet of water. The stream which feeds this gave the original name to this place.

Originally a Priory was built where the House now stands; there was a mill close by, to which the water was brought by a long *leat* or water-course, from Horningsham.

The Priory, a very small one, founded by Sir John Vernon, c. 1270, was of the Augustinian Order, and was dedicated to St. Radegund. It was dissolved 1529, and sold by the Crown to Sir John Horsey, of Clifton Maubank, and by him, 1540, to Sir John Thynne, who owed his advancement to Protector Somerset, with whom he was imprisoned in the Tower. He escaped his patron's fate, and was made Comptroller to the P. Elizabeth in Mary's reign. Of John of Padua, as architect of Longleat, nothing is known. What is known, is, that Sir John Thynne, with local masons, built a fine house which was partly burnt in April 1567. From 1568 to his death 1580, he was engaged on the present house, assisted by Robert Smithson, who built Wollaton, Notts, and died 1614. [*J. E. J.*] Sir James, the fourth owner, employed Sir C. Wren to carry on the work. By him certain staircases were erected, and a principal doorway, since removed to a schoolhouse at Warminster. In 1670

the estates came to Sir James's nephew, "Tom of Ten Thousand," the hero of the "hospitable treats" of Dryden's 'Absalom and Achitophel;' the entertainer of Monmouth in his Western progress 1680; and second husband of the very youthful heiress Lady Elizabeth Percy. Thos. Thynne was shot by Count Konigsmark in Pall Mall, and buried in the S. aisle of Westminster Abbey. On his death Longleat passed to his second cousin, created first Viscount Weymouth 1682, "a person of strict honour, purity, and integrity," the college friend of Thos. Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, to whom, after his deprivation, Longleat afforded an asylum, where for 20 years he experienced the untiring kindness of his early companion. On Lord Weymouth's death without male issue, the mansion passed to his great nephew the 2nd Viscount, who, towards the end of his life, lived in the manor-house at Horningsham. The 3rd Viscount Weymouth, created Marquis of Bath, added much to the beauty of the domain by forming the "Pleasure-ground" and gardens under the direction of the celebrated "Capability" Brown. Before that time the gardens had been laid out in the formal Dutch style. "Longleat is one of the largest as well as one of the most beautiful palaces in England of its day. Far greater purity pervades its classical details than in most of the buildings of its age. It consists of 3 stories, each ornamented with an order—the details throughout being elegant, though not rigidly correct."—*Fergusson*. The projections that break the façade, and the large mullioned windows give the whole "a cheerful habitable look, eminently suitable to a country residence of an English nobleman." The N. or Garden front is due to Jeffrey Wyatt, better known as Sir J. Wyattville. The length of the chief front is 220 ft., of the flanks 180 ft.

The interior of the House presents

a series of grand apartments remodelled by Sir J. Wyatville, c. 1808, and hung with a collection of paintings, chiefly limited to portraits, but interesting from the celebrity of the persons whose likenesses they preserve. The visitor is first ushered into the *Hall*, a lofty room with noble wooden roof, a screen supporting a gallery, and surmounted by the Arms of Thomas Ratcliffe, Earl of Sussex, the Protector Somerset (in the middle), and W. Cecil, Lord Burghley; below are various shields of the alliances of the Thynne family. At the other end of the Hall is the shield of Savile, Earl of Halifax, and over a door, Devereux, Earl of Essex. On the walls are antlers of the stag, and large hunting pictures by *Wootton*, containing portraits of the 2nd Lord Weymouth, his friends and servants. From this apartment the visitor will be conducted through the different rooms in the following order.

The *Lower Corridor*, furnished with ebony chairs, cabinets, &c. To l. and rt. are portraits of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, and Rob. Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex. In the *Western* half, are (S. wall) Lady Lansdowne (mother of 2nd Viscount Weymouth), *Kneller*; the 2nd Viscount and his Lady. The W. end, the 2nd Sir J. Thynne and his Lady, Ch. Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. On N. wall, Grace, Countess Granville, Edward, Earl of Jersey, both *Kneller*. In the *Eastern* half, are (S. wall) Lady Covert, *Jansen*; Sir Walter Covert, *Mytens*; Lady Mary Thynne, *Lely*; Lady Isabella Thynne, *Dobson*; and the two wives of Sir Thomas Thynne, *Mytens*. On N. wall, Sir James Thynne, *Dobson*, and Sir Thomas Thynne, his father, *Mytens*.

The *South Library*, portraits of Sir H. F. Thynne, George Granville, [Lord Lansdowne,] Thos. Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton; Thos. Seymour, Lord Sudeley, *Holbein*; Henry VIII., *do.*; one unknown; Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, Edward Sack-

ville, 4th Earl of Dorset, *Jansen*; Lord Keeper Coventry, *do.*; Lucius Cary, 2nd Viscount Falkland, The Protector Duke of Somerset, *Holbein*; First Earl of Shaftesbury, Bishop Ken, *Lely*; 1st Viscount Weymouth, *do.*

Drawing-room, two Camp Scenes, *Pinturricchio*; Madonna and Child, *Ghirlandaio*; St. Katharine and St. Lucia, *Dosso Dossi*; Clelia crossing the Tiber, *Andrea Martegna*; two children of Sir John Thynne; Head of St. Michael, *Raffaello*.

Long Saloon, an unique Florentine cabinet of coral, surmounted by a clock. There are also some buhl cabinets, and a time-piece which belonged to Louis XIV.

The *Billiard-room*. Thomas, 2nd Marquis of Bath, *Pickersgill*; Frances Duchess of Richmond (d. 1639), *Vandyck*; the present Marchioness of Bath (*Watts*).

The *Dining-room*. Thos. 1st Marquis of Bath, Lord Keeper Coventry, 1st Viscount Weymouth, 1st Viscountess Weymouth, 2nd Viscount Weymouth, his Lady, Sir John Thynne, founder of Longleat (d. 1580), Sir John Coventry, *Dobson*; Sir Egremont Thynne, Sir James Thynne, Thomas Thynne, Esq., murdered in Pall-Mall 1682, Henry Coventry, Esq., Sir H. F. Thynne, 4th Viscount Torrington, Lady Lansdowne (same as in Corridor), Lady Isabella Thynne (*do.*), James Thynne, Esq., Duchess of Portland, the present Marquis of Bath. The side-board is of carved ebony.

The *Staircase*, which with the upper corridors was constructed by Wyatville, in 1808. The Lion Hunt, *after Rubens*; Bear Hunting, Stag Hunting, *Snyders*; Sir Walter Raleigh, *Zuccherro*; Sir Henry Sydney, Geo. Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, Lady Arabella Stuart, *Van Somer*; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and his page, *Zuccherro*; Henry Fitzalan, Earl of Arundell, *Holbein*; James Duke of York,

Countess of Nottingham, Sir Richard Gresham, Charles II., Queen Catharine of Portugal.

On Landing-place. Charles I. when Prince of Wales, Henry IV. of France, *Piombino*.

Upper Corridor, West: on S. wall. Earl of Arlington, *Lely*; Earl of Nottingham, Lord Keeper, *Lely*; on N. side, Thomas Thynne, Esq., Duke of Bedford, father of Lord John Russell. *East* (N. wall), William, Duke of Hamilton, Hen. Maria, Charles I., Thos. Wentworth, Earl of Strafford; (S. wall) Archbishop Laud, and Bp. Juxon. Here also are some fine ebony cabinets and antique furniture.

Among other pictures are Earl Russell when young, Wm. Seymour, Marquis of Hertford, the 2nd Marchioness of Bath and children, Essex Rich, Countess of Nottingham, Lady Margaret Harley, Old View of Longleat, Henry Prince of Wales, Count and Countess Tekeli, Sir Theodore Mayerne, Viscount Dundee, Thos. Cavendish, the navigator, three children of Charles I., &c.

The domestic chapel (consecrated 1684) is plain, but its windows contain some old German glass.

It has been long and generally supposed that *all* Bishop Ken's Library is here. That is not the case; there is only a very small part of it at Longleat. His library was bequeathed to his relatives, subject to the selection of any works that were not already in the library of his friend and protector, Lord Weymouth. (*J. E. J.*)

There is an approach to Longleat House from the S., on the Horningsham side, through a handsome arched gateway, and by a straight drive of nearly a mile in length, skirted by ancient elms, and bounded on one side by a pleasure-ground and on the other by the water. The highly decorated and stately mansion forms an appropriate finish to the vista. Looking *from* the house, the view

on this side is terminated by the bold heights of *Bidcombe Hill*, otherwise called *Brimsdon* or *Cold Kitchen Hill*. In the woods is to be found the Weymouth pine, introduced from N. America by the 1st Lord Weymouth, and first planted by the Duchess of Beaufort in the grounds of Badminton, in 1705, and soon afterwards in considerable numbers at Longleat. The woods and plantations cover 2000 acres. S.W. of the park, on rising ground, with an extensive view, is

Woodhouse, now a farm, on the site of a castellated house of the Vernuns and Stantors, temp. Charles I., belonged to William, brother of Lord Arundell of Wardour, when it was stormed by the forces of the Parliament. According to a local tradition, Lady Arundell, upon finding its capture inevitable, contrived to escape in a coffin. The place was subsequently retaken by the Royalists, under Sir Francis Doddington, when 12 prisoners, most of them clothiers, were hanged on one tree, and buried under a tumulus, which is still pointed out as their grave. The square outline of the courtyard is marked by a high bank, but nothing remains except a fragment of wall.

Beyond the S. gate of Longleat is the hamlet of *Horningsham*, in a most picturesque district, resembling the best parts of Devonshire; and, on the slope of the hill, its little well, covered with masonry, partly old, and bearing the inscription, "O ye wells, bless the Lord. With Thee is the spring of life." The *Ch.* was rebuilt, save the tower, in 1844 by Harriet, Marchioness of Bath, at an expense of more than 5000*l.* (Wyatt and Brandon, *arch.*) To this *ch.* Bp. Ken was accustomed to repair during his residence at Longleat. Adjoining the *ch.* is a house erected by the Arundels, after the destruction of *Woodhouse*. It contains two chimney-pieces, that probably came

from Woodhouse. That in the upper room is sculptured with their arms, and reaches from the floor to the ceiling. From Horningsham a lane threads a winding valley between golden furze and broom in the direction of

Bidcombe, otherwise *Brimsdon*, or *Cold Kitchen Hill*, a height remarkable not only for its beauty, but for numerous vestiges of the ancient inhabitants, and for a fine view. On a bright clear day even the Welsh mountains are visible; but the prospect towards the S.W. forms the charm of the landscape, the downs sweeping to a distance in bays and promontories, the fine outliers of *Bradley Park Knoll* and *Long Knoll* giving character to the scenery. Towards the S. *Alfred's Tower* at Stourhead is a conspicuous object; and on the N. lies the park of Long-leat. The curious name *Cold Kitchen* is supposed to be a corruption of *Col crechen*, the chief summit, Celtic.

Maiden Bradley, W. of *Brimsdon*, and on the road from Frome to Shaftesbury, was in early times the site of a hospital founded temp. Stephen, by Manasses Biset, for leprous women, with a prior and some seculars to manage for them. It was afterwards made a monastery of Augustines. A small portion still exists incorporated with a farmhouse to the N.E. of the village. New Mead, in the parish of Maiden Bradley, was the birthplace of Edmund Ludlow, the Parliamentary General, 1620. The situation is beautiful. The village occupies high ground, but is surrounded by the more elevated and isolated hills, *Brimsdon Long Knoll* and *Bradley Park Knoll*. The view from Long Knoll is panoramic, and surpasses that from Bidcombe Hill. *Park Knoll* is so called, as being the ancient deer-park of *Bradley House*, the seat of the Duke of Somerset. A visitor to this village should notice the old inn, the Somerset Arms. There

is in this parish a favourite spot for a view called "Kate's Bench," where they say one of the leprous maidens used always to resort; but the old name is only Gate-bench.

The *Ch.*, which is Decorated, has lost much of its interest from restoration. It has a Purbeck marble Norman font, and contains a monument to Sir Edward Seymour, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1672, and who died 1707. Maiden Bradley came into the possession of the Seymours in the reign of Hen. VIII. In a line between Brimsdon and Warminster are 5 small villages, all distinguished by the name of

Deverel (commonly but very doubtfully said to mean *Dive-rill*), and to be so called from a stream, one of the sources of the Wily, which *dives* under ground near one of its sources at Kilmington. *Hill Deverel* was for some time the residence of the Ludlows, to one of whom there is a fine old monument in the church. The church itself is modern and ugly. To the E. of the church is the manor-house of the Ludlows. *Brixton Deverel*, says Hoare, "was undoubtedly the Petra Ægbryhti, 'Ægbryhts' Stone,' mentioned by Asser as the spot where Alfred halted for one night on his march towards the Danes." A different derivation from that adopted by Hoare is suggested by Domesday, where we find one Brictric named as its lord. The name would then be "Brictric's Town." The church has been much spoilt by restoration, but preserves a Transition chancel arch with clustered shafts. The manor-house almost touches the E. end of the church. *Deverel Longbridge* derives its name from a bridge supposed to have been built by the Abbots of Glastonbury, its former lords. The church, which has a Norman arcade on the N. side of the nave, has been extensively restored in the Decorated style, and has a Perpendicular N. aisle and W. windows. The old

altar-slab is still in use. The carved seats are good examples of the last century. The church is the burial-place of the Thynnes, and contains among their monuments one to the builder of Longleat. S. of the church is a picturesque group of almshouses.

Monkton Deverel Ch. has been rebuilt, with the exception of the tower. It has a plain Norman font.

The *Ch.* of *Kingston Deverel*, which is modern, in a good style of Decorated, preserves its Dec. S. arcade and its towers, between the chancel and the nave. It contains a fine male effigy of E.E. character, to which a new head has been added. Over the S. door is a "vesica" studded with ball-flower, vouched for as ancient, but with a very modern look.

Lastly, in this description of the environs of Longleat, may be mentioned 2 small circular earthworks just N. of the park, *Roddenbury* and *Hales Castle*, both on *Roddenbury Hill*.

Proceeding on our route from Warminster, we reach at

24 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Westbury Junction Stat.* (Rte. 4).

ROUTE 12.

SALISBURY TO YEOVIL, BY DINTON, TISBURY [WARDOUR CASTLE, FOUNT-HILL, HINDON], SEMLEY [SHAFTESBURY], GILLINGHAM [MERE, STOURHEAD], TEMPLE COMBE, MILBORNE PORT, SHERBORNE.

(*London and S. - Western Railway.*)

From Salisbury the line runs side by side with that of the Gt.-Western to Westbury, as far as

86 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. (From London) *Wilton* (Rte. 8). The rly. continues up the valley of the Nadder, with a range of high bare chalk downs to the S. dividing it from the *Vale of Chalk*. This range is diversified with earth works, and terminates in the abrupt slope of *White Sheet Hill* above *Donhead*. The line passes

87 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. *North Burcombe*. The E. end of the chancel of the little Dec. *Ch.*, has the long and short quoins characteristic of what is called Saxon work.

89 m. l. *Barford St. Martin*. The *Ch.* is cruciform without aisles. A curious effigy in a winding-sheet lies under an arch S. of the altar. Immediately to the N. rises *Grovely Wood*, in which is the crescent-shaped earthwork known as *Grovely Works*, the remains of a British village. 1 m. S.W. is *Hurdcott House*, the residence of the Powells, a Jacobean house, c. 1631; its terrace commands a pleasing view of the Nadder, which flows through the park.

90 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. lies *Baverstock Ch.* (St. Edith) and a little further N. the village of the same name.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. is *Compton Chamberlayne House* (Charles Penruddocke, Esq.),

to whose family it has belonged for 300 years. At the time of the Usurpation by Cromwell, the owner was Col. John Penruddock, who lost his life in an unsuccessful attempt to raise the country in favour of the lawful Prince. In the early morning of the 11th of March, 1655, Penruddock, in company with Sir Joseph Wagstaff and other adherents of the King, to the number of 200 horsemen, rode into Salisbury, and, seizing in their beds the High Sheriff and the judges, who were then holding the assizes, proclaimed Chas. II. But the boldness of this measure failed to produce the desired effect. The citizens remained passive, and, after waiting some hours in the expectation of their rising, the discomfited royalists were fain to beat a retreat. The country had, however, been alarmed, and a troop of horse, galloping from Andover in pursuit, captured Penruddock near South Molton in Devonshire. He was tried with his companions at Exeter, and condemned to be beheaded, a sentence which was soon carried into execution. On ascending the scaffold he exclaimed, "This, I hope, will prove like Jacob's ladder; though the feet of it rest upon the earth, yet I doubt not but the top of it reacheth to heaven. The crime for which I am now to die is Loyalty, in this age called High Treason." Insignificant as this rising was its consequences were grave. "This little rebellion," remarks Hallam, "meeting with no resistance from the people, but a supineness equally fatal, was soon quelled. It roused Cromwell to secure himself by an unprecedented exercise of power. He knew that want of concert or courage had alone prevented a general rising. Dividing the kingdom into 11 districts he placed at the head of each a major-general as a sort of military magistrate, responsible for the subjection of his prefecture."

Compton House contains the portrait of the unfortunate colonel, together with those of many members of his family, some by *Lely* and *Vandyck*. They are in frames carved by Grinling Gibbons, and fill the panels of an old oaken chamber. The laced cap worn by him at his execution, showing the gash of the axe, is also preserved here. There is a picture representing an unknown person (perhaps Sir John Davies), handsomely dressed in the style of Elizabeth's reign, but whose rt. hand is withered. In the upper part of the painting is the single word "*utinam*," (oh that!).

The park covers both sides of a pretty wooded glen in the greensand formation with a large sheet of water in the hollow. The house has lately been much enlarged. The adjoining *Ch.*, generally of the late Dec. period, with remains of the Norman and E.E. styles, contains a tablet of white marble commemorating the Penruddocks, who have been buried here since 1598.

91½ m. *Dinton Stat.*

Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Lord Chancellor, and historian of the Great Rebellion, was born here, Feb. 18, 1608, in the old rectory-house, now pulled down and a school built on the site. But the tradition of Clarendon's birthplace has been transferred to a picturesque farmhouse E. of the ch. He lived for some time at Hatch House, S. of Fonthill. Dinton was also the birthplace, Jan. 5, 1598, of *Henry Lawes*, the musician:

"Harry, whose tuneful and well-measured song
First taught our English music how to span
Words with just note and accent."—*Milton*.

He was the friend of Milton and of Waller, and was shot at the siege of Chester, 1645. Adjoining the village W. is *Dinton House*, the seat of the Wyndhams, containing good family portraits. On the hill-side W. of the house is *Wick Ball Camp*,

a single-ditched entrenchment of 9 acres embosomed in wood. The *Ch.*, E.E. and Dec., with Trans.-Norm. portions, is well worth inspecting. It was restored by Butterfield in 1876. It is cruciform, with a central tower, pleasantly situated near Mr. Wyndham's grounds.

On a promontory of the Downs, 1., is *Chiselbury*, a circular encampment enclosed by a single fosse and vallum 27 ft. high, containing $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

93 m. rt. *Teffont Evias*, a very pretty village, adorned with rich woods, and watered by a pretty brook (more properly *Ewyas* from its owners the lords of the Castle of that name in Herefordshire). The *Manor House* (W. Fane de Salis, Esq.) of the age of Henry VII., contains pictures by *Mabuse*, *P. Perugino* and *G. Romano*, with portraits of the Mayne family by *Gainsborough*, *Morland*, &c. In the manor chapel attached to the parish *Ch.* is a monument to Henry Ley, Esq., d. 1574, with effigies of himself and 2 sons. The tower is lofty and richly ornamented and is crowned by a lofty spire. The *Rectory* is worthy of notice. The E. wall is decorated with Baron de Triquetris' mural mosaics. The rectory was built by Sir G. G. Scott. The quarries which supplied the stone for Salisbury Cathedral form extensive caverns in this parish.

$94\frac{1}{2}$ m., 2 m. rt. is *Chilmark*, the birthplace, says Fuller, of *John of Chylmark*, a famous mathematician of the reign of Rich. II., accounted the Archimedes of that age. It is better known for its *freestone* (the Portland beds), of which Salisbury cathedral is built. The quarries are 1 m. to the l., but not seen from the road. The *Ch.* (magnificently restored by Wyatt, 1856) is cruciform, with a noble tower and spire at the intersection. An old Norm. door forms the entrance to the new N. aisle. The interior is rich in colouring and stained glass. On the rt. rises *Chil-*

mark Down; and close to the rly. rt. is *Chicks Grove*, where the farmhouse of *Gaston* belonged to the Abbey of Shaftesbury, and still retains mediæval doors and windows.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. is the village of *Fovant*. The *Ch.*, restored and partly rebuilt 1863, has some points of interest, especially the Norman priest's door and the Tower, the date of which is fixed by an inscription on a small mural brass to George Rede, 1495, "Rector when the new Tower was built;" representing the Annunciation with the legend, "O blessed moder of pite (pity) Pray to the sone for me."

To the l. above *Sutton Mandeville*, where the *Ch.* is partly Norm., with a fine yew tree in the churchyard, is *Buxbury*, a promontory projecting conspicuously from the downs. At

95 m. l. is *Castle Ditches*, a very interesting camp and fine point of view, commanding the valley of the Nadder and the woods of Wardour Castle. It is an earthwork of great strength, formed by 3 concentric ditches and ramparts 40 ft. in height. The area is 23 acres.

$96\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Tisbury* Stat. (the Stat. for *Wardour Castle* 2 m. S.W., and for *Fonthill*, 2 m. N.W.) *Tisbury* is a large and important village on a sharp, rising ground, above the river Nadder. *Tisbury* was granted by Ethelred to the abbess of Shaftesbury, A.D. 984. The *Ch.*, on the lower ground, is one of the largest in S. Wilts, with a central tower, the piers supporting which and some of the doorways are relics of an earlier building. The chancel is of more modern work, and tradition assigns the windows to Sir C. Wren. The roof of chancel bears date 1616, that and the roof of nave are of rich plaster-work. The aisles and N. transept have rich wood ceilings, bearing the date 1535, and a centre beam, 1569. It contains many monuments of the Arundells, to 1808. Among them are those of

Lady Margaret, daughter of Lord Edm. Howard, sister of the unfortunate Queen of Henry VIII., wife of Sir Thomas Arundell, d. 1571; the heroic Lady Blanche; Thomas, of Wardour, 1st Lord Arundell, so created by James I., and Count of the Holy Roman Empire by Rodolph II., 1595, for his gallantry at the siege of Gran in Hungary, where he captured with his own hands the Turkish standard, afterwards sent to Rome. There is a brass to Lawrence Hyde, grandfather of the Earl of Clarendon, and his wife. In the churchyard is a hollow yew-tree 37 ft. in circumference, entered by a rustic gate. Tisbury was the birthplace of *Sir John Davies*, poet, author of 'The Immortality of the Soul,' and 'The Dignity of Man,' and Attorney-General in Ireland, b. 1569, husband of the would-be prophetess, Lady Eleanor Davies, whose anagram of her name "reveal O Daniel," "too much by and, and too little by an s," was capped by Lamb, Dean of the Arches, by "never so mad a ladie;" also of the Rev. William Jay, long a popular dissenting preacher at Bath.

Place House, at the N.E. end of the village, is an ancient house formerly a Grange of the Abbess of Shaftesbury, which will repay careful examination. It is "a fine manor house of the 15th cent. without much pretension to ornament or much fortification; but with the buildings of the farmyard perfect. The outer gatehouse is perfect and very good with unusually large buttresses; simple but imposing and very picturesque. The room over it is later and was probably the chapel." — *J. H. P.* Crossing the outer court we come to a second gatehouse, opening into the inner court, with the house on one side and the offices (rebuilt) on the other. The house is a parallelogram with the *Hall* for the centre. This retains its roof but is divided by a floor and partitions into small apart-

ments. Behind the Hall is the *Kitchen*, now the finest and most perfect part of the house; but the roof is hidden by a plaster ceiling. Above the fireplace which occupies $\frac{1}{4}$ of the room is a remarkably beautiful louvre chimney. At the other end of the Hall are the living rooms of the family. On the rt. of the entrance court is a remarkably fine *Barn* of the 15th cent., with good buttresses and transeptal gateway, and plain original timber roof. Opposite is a row of stables of the 15th cent., "remarkably perfect with a row of doorways of the usual Perp. style, and small windows of single lights quite original and very uncommon." — *J. H. P.* *Husledon*, now a farmhouse, belonged once to the Lord Delawarr.

Tisbury has quarries of excellent building stone of the lower Purbeck beds, and upper oolite.

[2 m. S.W. is *Wardour Castle* (shown every week day from 11 till 4), the seat of Lord Arundell of Wardour, situated in its park, on a gentle eminence rising from the Nadder. It is a large stone mansion, more remarkable for size than for architectural beauty, with a Corinthian portico attached to the S. front, but justly celebrated for its collection of paintings and of other rare and curious works of art. It was erected between the years 1770-76, after a design by Payne. The visitor enters it on the N. front, the wings of which, curving outwards, form a crescent. He is conducted to the *rotunda staircase*, formed by a peristyle of fluted Corinthian columns supporting a cupola, and by this very grand and beautiful approach to the following suite of apartments, which contain the pictures.

The *Drawing-room*, in which are the *Storm and Calm* by *Vernet*, a striking contrast, the latter being a moonlight scene; a landscape, *Hobbema* (? *Ruysdael*); the *Virgin* and

Sleeping Child, *Sassoferrato*; Moses striking the Rock, and the Children of Israel collecting Manna, *Breughel*; and a landscape by *Rembrandt*.

The *Little Drawing-room*, with Tobit going to meet his Son, *Gerard Dow*, the largest picture by the master known, measuring 6 ft. by 4, drawn with great care and highly finished, the details executed with the painter's usual minuteness; portrait of a lady, *Sir Josh. Reynolds*; 2 landscapes, *G. Poussin*; a small circular *Claude*; 2 rocky landscapes with robbers, *Salv. Rosa*; 2 pictures by *Linglebach*; and a large Banditti scene, by *D. Teniers*—a remarkable picture.

The *Boudoir*, containing Christ driving the Money-changers from the Temple, *Rembrandt*; the Marriage of St. Catherine, *Correggio*; the Virgin and Child, *Don Alessandro*; a landscape with cattle, *Louthembourg*; and some beautiful carvings in ivory, family relics, and other curiosities. Among them are an ivory crucifix, attributed to Mich. Angelo; the Scourging at the Pillar, 3 figures in solid silver on a stand of lapis lazuli inlaid with precious stones, a work made for Pope Alexander VII., and presented by him to Queen Christina of Sweden; china saucers painted in imitation of Raphael's cartoons; and the *Glastonbury Cup*, a very interesting relic, but not older than the "renaissance," c. 1600. It may take its name from having been carved out of a bit of the Glastonbury thorn. It is a wooden cup resting on crouching lions, the bowl carved in relief with the 12 Apostles, and the lid with the Crucifixion. "The contents," says the antiquary Milner, "are just 2 quarts of ale measure, and there were originally 8 pegs placed one above another in the inside, which divided the contained liquor into equal quantities of half a pint each." Notice a remarkable silver beaker, enamelled in black, with figures in lavender, of the 15th century.

The *State Bedroom*, on the walls of

which are the Angel conducting Peter out of Prison, *M. Angelo*; a Hurdigurdy Player in a Dutch village, *Albert Dürer*; portraits of the late Lord Arundell, Miss Markham as an Augustine nun, *Bartoli*; and the Duke of Tuscany, *Giorgione*; and 3 small pictures by *Schidoni* and *Domenichino*.

The *Small Ante-room*, containing Sir Thomas Arundell taking the Turkish standard, *Cooper*; Constantine's victory over Maxentius, *Filippi*; a small interior by *Teniers*; and head of an old woman, *Rembrandt*.

The *Billiard-room*, with the Martyrdom of Pope Sixtus I., *Palma Giovane*; the 3 Children of Charles I.; Cardinal Pole; Etna and Vesuvius in eruption (2 paintings by the same master); Pope Benedict XIV.; and other popes and cardinals.

The *Saloon*, enriched by one of the finest pictures in the collection, Our Saviour taken from the Cross, by *Spagnoletto*—a powerful work; the despair expressed by the attitude and countenance of the Virgin most touching. Among the other pictures in this room are 2 large landscapes, *G. Poussin*; a Pieta, *Ribera*; a male head, *Velasquez*; a Boy playing on a Bagpipe, *Caravaggio*; St. Bernard, and the Infant Christ sleeping on the Cross (exquisite in colour), *Titian*; Santa Maria, *Carlo Dolce*; St. Jerome, *Rubens*; John the Baptist, *Guido Reni*; the Holy Family, *A. del Sarto*; Christ's Charge to Peter, *Ann. Carracci*; and Joseph relating his Dream to his Brethren, *Murillo*.

The *Dining-room*, hung with portraits: Hugo Grotius, *Rubens*; Sir Thomas More, *Holbein*; Card. Pole, a copy of *Titian*; Villiers Duke of Buckingham; [the first Lord Arundell of Wardour, *Vandyck*; his wife, by the same artist; Viscount Falkland, *Vandyck*; and the 2 daughters of the 1st Earl Rivers, *Sir P. Lely*.

The *Music-room*, with the 8th Lord Arundell of Wardour and his wife, *Sir Josh. Reynolds*, the latter much

faded; the 7th Lord A. and his wife, by the same artist; the Holy Family, *Giorgione*; Hagar in the Desert, *P. Bartoli*; and the Lady Blanche who defended Wardour so gallantly, a copy from a portrait by *Angel. Kauffman*, a most delicate face with small features; on the ceiling a copy of Guido's *Aurora*, by *P. Bartoli*.

The *Chapel* is in the W. wing, and contains an Assumption by *Caspar de Crayer*; a beautiful relief in marble of the Virgin, Child, and St. John; and a sumptuous altar of agate and marble resting on an antique sarcophagus, and surmounted by a crucifix of solid silver. Here is preserved the Westminster chasuble, exquisitely embroidered with the badges of Henry VIII. and Katharine of Aragon. To the rt. of the altar stands the monument of the 2nd Lord Arundell and his wife Blanche. The sacrarium was added by Soane.

The *Park* is large and finely wooded, and surrounded by hills: *Castle Ditches* on the E., *Whitesheet Hill* on the S., and *Castle Rings* and the high land of Shaftesbury on the W. The pleasure-grounds bound it N.E., extending more than 1 m. from the house to the ivy-mantled ruin of the ancient castle, standing in the bosom of rich woods. Wardour was the possession of the Lovels; and the castle was built by John, Lord Lovel, A.D. 1393.

The Lovels lost Wardour in the Wars of the Roses from their adherence to the Lancastrian cause, and it was granted by Ed. IV. to John, Lord Audley, and was afterwards purchased by Sir J. Arundell of Lanherne 1547, whose grandson Sir Matthew greatly embellished the castle, as recorded in Latin verses above the Great Gate, which also commemorate his singular fate in having to purchase his father's (Sir Thomas's) inheritance of Lord Pembroke, after its confiscation on his execution as an adherent of Protector Somerset. His grandson was the first Lord Arundell, "the valiant,"

whose son Thomas, the 2nd baron, was the husband of Lady Blanche Somerset, the heroine of the siege of Wardour. Wardour was attacked by a powerful force under the command of Sir Edward Hungerford, 1643, at a time when Lord Arundell was in attendance on the king at Oxford. But his lady, Blanche, refused to surrender, and, with her little garrison of 50, only half of whom were fighting men, aided by the women who steadily loaded the muskets, most heroically withstood the onslaught of 1300 soldiers, and a bombardment which lasted 5 days. After defending the castle as long as it was tenable, she capitulated on honourable terms, May 8, 1643; but the Republican leader, having once gained possession, did not scruple to violate his engagements, and to plunder the mansion of its most valuable contents, and devastate the park and grounds. They tore up the park palings, burnt the lodges, and cut down the trees, which they sold for 4*d.* or 6*d.* a-piece. They drove away the horses and cattle; "and having left nothing in the air or water, they dug under the earth," where they tore up two miles of leaden piping which conveyed water to the castle, which they cut up and sold at 6*d.* a-yard. It was then garrisoned by the Parliament, and placed under the command of Col. Edmund Ludlow, who held it from May, 1643, till the following March (see Ludlow's *Memoirs*), when young Lord Arundell, whose father had died of wounds received at Lansdown, and Sir Francis Dodington invested it, and compelled Ludlow to surrender after a long siege and gallant defence.

The *Castle*, which is "very valuable as an example of a nobleman's house at the beginning of the 15th cent." (*J. H. P.*) is hexagonal in plan, with an open court, with 2 sq. towers attached to the eastern or entrance point. The walls are nearly perfect

and unusually lofty; a good example of early Perp. Over the gate of entrance is a Latin inscription. The windows of the dining-hall are on the first floor. The kitchen, with tall narrow windows, was on the same level, behind the hall, with vaulted chambers below. The staircase from the courtyard remains with its groined roof.

The visitor, having entered the precincts of the ruin through a gatehouse, stands on a carpet of turf under the shadow of the cedar, the cypress, and the iron-wood tree (the last springing from the ground in a cluster of stems), which combine with the ruins in producing a most picturesque effect. An hexagonal court forms the centre, and contains the well sunk by Ludlow during the siege. Adjoining the ruins, in the buildings of a farm, are the remains of the mansion occupied by the family after the destruction of this castle, and to the time of their removal to the present house.

Wardour was the birthplace of Sir Nicholas Hyde, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench 1627-31.

[3 m. N.W. *Hindon* (*Inns*: Grosvenor Arms; Lamb; Swan; *Pop.* 604), an ancient but inconsiderable market-town, on the high road from Salisbury to Taunton, once returning two members, but as a borough, "memorable only for its venality." —*Gough*. It is said that a member, returning thanks for the honour of his election, was interrupted by an elector, who bluntly told him "he need not trouble himself to thank them; 'for if the squire had zent his great dog, we should have chosen him, all one as if it were you, zur.'"] It is needless to add that the first Reform Act deprived it of its Parliamentary honours. It was represented by *Monk Lewis*, and *Henry Fox*, afterwards Lord Holland, and contested unsuccessfully at the commencement of his career by the late [Wills, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

Lord Beaconsfield. It consists of one broad street, planted with trees. Most of the town was destroyed by fire, July 2, 1755. The *Ch.*, commenced by the late Marquis of Westminster and completed by the Marchioness in 1871, stands on the site of one built in the reign of Philip and Mary. It is of early French architecture, with a tower and spire. The Inn is excellent, and affords convenient headquarters for an excursion to *Fonthill*. *Stourhead* is within reach, but much nearer the pretty town of Bruton (Rte. 23).

On the N. and W. Hindon is bounded by a wild expanse of down, tumid in many places with ancient earthworks. The site of a British village may be traced at a little distance to the N.W., and several others on the border of the *Great Ridge Wood*, 2 m. N. A Roman road run from end to end of the same wood.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is the little village of *Berwick St. Leonards*, where are some remains of the old manor-house, built in the reign of James I., and from 1629 to 1735 the seat of the Howes. In 1688 the Prince of Orange slept in it on his road to London. The porch forms the entrance to the kitchen-garden, in which is a sycamore of remarkable size. The little *Church* adjoining the house, very carefully rebuilt in 1860, contains monuments to the Howes, including one with effigies of Geo. Howe, d. 1647, and Dorothy his wife.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. further E. is *Fonthill Bishop*, with an ancient cruciform *Ch.*; on the rt. is the entrance to

Fonthill, once so well known as Fonthill Abbey, the seat of the author of 'Vathek,' which has undergone many changes within the last half-century. The estate has been sold and subdivided; and now belongs in part to Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, and in part to Alfred Morrison, Esq., the heir of the millionaire James Morrison. As a baronial seat, it dated from a very

distant period, having been the lordship of the Giffards about the time of the Conquest. From the Giffards it has passed in succession through the families of Maundevill, Mauduit, Molyn, Hungerford, Mervyn, Cottingham, and Beckford.

The history of Fonthill has been checkered by many disasters. The ancient mansion of the Mervyns fell a prey to the flames; the second, built by the Cottingtons, 1650, and purchased by Alderman Beckford, shared a similar fate in 1755; and the third, "*Fonthill splendens*," as it has been called, erected by the Alderman at a cost of 240,000*l.*, became dilapidated, and was sold by his son, who disliked the damp site, for 9000*l.* It was then that the author of '*Vathek*' shifted the site, and planned his pretentious (so-called) abbey, upon which more than another quarter of a million was expended. But this fairy palace, having arisen to become the wonder and admiration of all beholders, was fated to a brief existence, for its destruction commenced Dec. 21, 1825, with the fall of the tower. This, however, did not take place until after the sale of the whole estate in 1823, with the abbey and its valuable contents, to Mr. Farquhar, for the round sum of 290,000*l.* On hearing of the fall of the tower, Beckford is reported to have said, "Well, it has shown more civility to Mr. Farquhar than it ever did to me. He has had it but one year. I had it 27, and during all that time it neither bowed nor curtsied." Mr. Farquhar cared nothing for the place, and degraded it by the erection of a cloth mill on the lake. In the days of its glory Fonthill had been the scene of many splendid fêtes, particularly those of 1781, on the occasion of Mr. Beckford's coming of age, when music, dancing, and feasting were continued for a week, when 300 guests assembled at the dinner-table, and 1200 of Mr. Beckford's tenants and the people of the neighbourhood

dined on the lawn, when the surrounding hills were illuminated by bonfires, and the park by 30,000 lamps; and that of 1797, during the building of the Abbey, when, after a succession of rural sports in the park, and the roasting of an ox and 10 sheep at 11 fires, 700 persons were feasted, and blankets and fuel distributed to all the poor of the neighbourhood.

But Fonthill was the scene of still greater excitement when the abbey and all its contents were thrown open for sale, first by Mr. Christie in 1822, and afterwards by Mr. Phillips in 1824. For not only had the art treasures of that princely place been sealed against the public, but the park itself—known by rumour as a beautiful spot—had for several years been enclosed by a most formidable wall, six miles in circuit. This had been built by Mr. Beckford to exclude poachers and the hounds, but by no means with the object of "preserving" the game. "I never suffer an animal," he said, "to be killed but through necessity. In early life I gave up shooting, because I consider we have no right to murder animals for sport. I am fond of animals. The birds in the plantations of Fonthill seemed to know me. They continued their songs as I rode close to them; the very hares grew bold. It was exactly what I wished." In a solitary ride—such as he has described—he encountered a whole bevy of men and dogs ranging at full liberty over his land. He at once returned to his house, and sent a notice for a contractor who was to build a wall around all the planted and arable part of his estate, extending about 7 m., within 12 months. It was to be 12 feet high, and to have a *chevaux-de-frise* on the top, and such a wall was completed in 1796. "I found remonstrances," he said, "vain, and so I built a wall." Mr. Beckford was born at Fonthill, 1759, and on attaining his

majority found himself one of the richest subjects in England, the possessor of nearly a million in ready money, and an income of 100,000*l.* a-year. Unfortunately this wealth was derived in great part from West Indian property, and its depreciation in value obliged the accomplished and magnificent patron of the arts, the millionaire of Fonthill and Cintra, eventually to sell his estates and content himself with a house at Bath. His abbey was commenced about 1796, and at Christmas 1800, when partly finished, was visited by Nelson, who came by invitation in company with Sir William and Lady Hamilton.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Hindon is a series of beautiful terrace walks, one above the other, overlooking the grounds of Fonthill. The uppermost is much the longest, and runs into Mr. Morrison's grounds.

The entrance is 1 m. from Hindon towards Salisbury, by an archway, supported by a very handsome wall of great massiveness. Having passed it, the traveller will view with delight the noble expanse of park-like scenery. A lake glistens in the vale, and on either side of it, at some distance, rise finely-wooded hills. To the rt. is the mansion of Mr. Alfred Morrison, with a lofty tower in the Italian style (the nucleus of which is a wing of Alderman Beckford's mansion), full of artistic treasures, seated under a splendid screen of trees. Continuing along the road, the visitor in $\frac{1}{4}$ m. will reach the now dilapidated *Hermit's Cave*, made by the younger Beckford, consisting of subterranean excavations lighted by openings in the wood above, and passing under the road. By the water-side, below these caves, stands a cedar of great size, and there is a ferry to the opposite shore, where a landing-place of stone, with balustrade and vases, forms a pretty feature. From the Hermit's Cave the road ascends a hill to an Inn, and

the little church of *Fonthill Giffard*, where Beckford's classical structure has been replaced by a beautiful building erected by the late Marquis of Westminster.

A little beyond the Inn a stone lodge guards the iron gates, by which the privileged visitor obtains admission to the approach, which leads under silver firs of great beauty to the new mansion erected near the lake by the Marquis of Westminster. in the style of a Scotch castle, from the designs of W. Burn, Esq. On the hill, to the north-west of the house, stands one tower of the former abbey, which has been strengthened, and converted partly into a cottage for its guardian, and partly into rooms, furnished with oak. The view from the top of the tower is very extensive, commanding the Dorset hills, the Wiltshire downs, and their highest point, Whingreen, and the woods of Wardour; and on the west a green glade nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile long, which forms the chief approach to the abbey ground, and is one of the many miles of drives which Mr. Beckford constructed in the magnificent woods. The proper name of the lake, which is a very pretty one, is the "Bittern Lake." The "Beacon Hill" is the highest point in the woods.]

Proceeding on our route, 98 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the rt. is *Pyt House*, the seat of Vere Fane Benett-Stanford, Esq., a short m. S. of Fonthill, and 3 from Hindon. It is a handsome stone structure of Grecian architecture, erected by Mr. Benett about 50 years ago. It is faced by a portico, and commands a view across the valley of the Nadder of the hills about Shaftesbury. It contains a few choice pictures—among them the portrait of Francis I., by *Albert Dürer*; the Rape of Helen, by *Luca di Giordano*; 2 cabinet paintings by *Vandervelde*, a Storm and a Calm; and portraits of Prince Rupert, King William, and Queen Mary. Behind

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the house, quite hidden among the woods, is a pretty little chapel, now disused. Adjoining the park-wall is

Hatch House, an old manor-house, originally a seat of the Hyde family; but now incorporated with the buildings of a farm. During the great plague of 1665 every inhabitant of the house is said to have perished.

101 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Semley Stat.* The village of Semley, which takes its name from the little river *Sem*, which here joins the Nadder, lies 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. further E. It was granted by Edwy to the abbess of Wilton in 955. Its little *Ch.* has a Norman font, and till its rebuilding in 1875 by the Marchioness of Westminster was remarkable for a self-sown apple-tree growing on the top of the tower.

[3 m. N. is *East Knoyle*, conspicuous by its windmill on the high ground behind it, the birthplace of *Sir Christopher Wren* (1632). He was the son of the rector. The rectory in which he was born was pulled down 1880. His father, Dr. Christopher Wren, descended from an old family of Danish origin, was a fellow of St. John's, Oxford; chaplain in ordinary to Charles I., Dean of Windsor, and registrar of the Order of the Garter. He was a learned divine, and had even studied the art in which his son so distinguished himself. He got himself into trouble with the Committee for Scandalous Ministers by the stuccos and pictures in his church. The *Ch.*, pleasantly situated on a rising ground, is cruciform, with a tower at the west end. It was restored by the rector, the Rev. R. N. Milford, in memory of his father-in-law, Bishop Sumner of Winchester, patron of the living and lord of the manor.

Knoyle House, the seat of Alfred Seymour, Esq. The old house, which had no architectural merit, has recently been extensively enlarged and improved from the designs of

Messrs. Carpenter and Ingelow, following the type of the works of John Thorpe. A central hall and picture gallery have been erected on the site of an open courtyard; a new grand staircase and a circular drawing-room have been built, and the whole house has been raised a story. Italian columns, imported by Mr. Seymour, have been largely used. The picture gallery contains an interesting collection of family portraits, among which are Henry VIII., by *Holbein*, Queen Jane Seymour, Sir Edward Seymour, Speaker of the House of Commons, and others. There is also a small collection of well-chosen pictures, chiefly of the Netherlandish school. Among them are the following:—*A. Van der Velde*, a pastoral landscape;—*W. Van der Velde*, a sea-piece, the water calm and studded with vessels, a beautiful specimen of the master;—*J. Vernet*, a coast view;—*M. Hondekoeter*, a white hen, “of the utmost truth and mastery of painting:” (*Waagen*);—*J. Van der Heyden*, a charming landscape, the figures by *A. Van der Velde*;—*B. Van Orley*, the Virgin and Joseph adoring the new-born Child; *A. Turchi*, a Pietà;—*Luis de Morales*, Virgin and Child, a picture of elevated feeling, and of which there is another example in the Berlin Gallery. *Sedgehill*, 1 m. N. of the Station, S. of Knoyle, is a property of the late Marquis of Westminster.]

[2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Semley Stat. lie the villages of *Donhead St. Andrew*, and *Donhead St. Mary*, taking their name from the little river Don, which rises here and flows into the Nadder, straggling picturesquely over the steep descent to the park of War-dour Castle. The *Ch.* of *Donhead St. Andrew* lies in a deep hollow, badly restored some years back, contains a curiously sculptured capital. It represents a shield bearing the emblems of the Crucifixion and supported by angels. This rests on a

head of the Saviour which terminates the shaft. *Ferne*, the seat of Sir T. F. Grove, Bart., commands extensive views. It contains a portrait of Hugh Grove, beheaded at Exeter with Col. Penruddocke in 1655.

The Ch. of *Donhead St. Mary*, standing on rising ground above the little river, deserves a visit. The S. side of the nave is E. E., c. 1220, the N. side, c. 1260. The tower-arch, porch, and side chapels, c. 1350. The tower and chancel, c. 1500. There is a rude circular Norm. font. There is a fine view of Wardour Castle from the churchyard. An old farmhouse near the spring in the manor of Combe is called "the *Priory*," from the fact of a handful of monks of the Carthusian order having taken refuge there during the first French Revolution. The monumental slab of one of the number, Ant. Guillemot, may be noticed in the parish ch.

The scenery here in the higher parts is exceedingly diversified, rising into lofty hills, partly covered with wood, and intersected with deep ravines or combes. In one of these called Chilver-Combe Bolton, near the hamlet of Ashgrove, is a burial-place belonging to the Society of Friends. Below the chalk is a bed of upper greensand, or firestone, extensively quarried for building purposes.

Donhead Hall, adjoining these villages, was once the property of a grandson of Sir Godfrey Kneller, to whom it came by marriage with the heiress of the Weekes. It is now the property of John Du Boulay, Esq., who purchased it of Mr. Wyndham.

White Sheet Hill commands extensive views on either side. Below to the l. lies the village of *Berwick St. John*, with a cruciform Ch. under *Winchelbury*, or *Vespasian's Camp* (Rte. 8.)

To the rt. the eye ranges from the park of *Wardour Castle* to the woods of *Fonthill*, Shaftesbury and

the far country to the W. are well displayed on the descent from this high tract of land.

A striking feature of this neighbourhood is *Sticklepath Hill*, an eminence of greensand, the W. point of which is cut off by a ditch and rampart overgrown with copse wood. The area thus enclosed is 15½ acres, and known by the name of *Castle Rings*. The abrupt slope on the E. side of Sticklepath Hill forms Donhead Cliff. Below the hill to the S.W., is *Wincombe Park* (Charles Gordon, Esq.)]

[2½ m. S. of Semley Stat., just within the Dorsetshire border, perched high on the narrow ridge of a greensand hill, which pushes itself forward from the chalk down into the low country to the W., stands the town of

SHAFTESBURY (*Inns*: Grosvenor Arms, Abbey Arms. Pop. of parliamentary borough, 8479; of the town, 4855), or Shaston as it is locally called, a municipal and parliamentary borough returning one member. "Standing on the extreme verge of a long hill, which seems to form a natural rampart to Wiltshire, it is one of the most remarkable towns in England for its position. It is truly a city set on a hill, below which the fertile and picturesque vale of Blackmore stretches far and wide in every direction. The abbey stood on the southern edge of the bluff, which was walled up from the valley to make the precipitous declivity secure." — *Elihu Burritt*. It commands an extensive prospect on every side but the E. Towards the S. the scarped slope of the hill is curved like a bow. Shaftesbury has a traditional claim to be one of the oldest towns in England. Geoffrey of Monmouth assigns its foundation to Hudibras, grandfather of King Lear, 950 B.C., and reports that an eagle spoke while the wall

was being built. Brampton, assigns its origin to Cassivelaunus, A.D. 52. Its ancient name was *Caer Pallador*, of which Shaftesbury is said to be an Anglo-Saxon equivalent. What is certain is that a Nunnery was founded here in 880 by Alfred, of which his daughter Elgiva was the first abbess. Edmund Ironside and Athelstan were liberal patrons of the abbey, in which Elgiva, the queen of the former, was buried. In 901, the body of Edward the Martyr was solemnly translated here from Wareham, by Elphere, E. of Mercia, in the presence of Abp. Dunstan, Alfwold Bp. of Sherborne, Wulfrith Abbess of Wilton with her nuns, and an immense concourse of nobility and commonalty. The miraculous cures wrought at the saint's tomb brought multitudes of pilgrims from all parts of the kingdom, by whose offerings the abbey soon became exceedingly rich. The town and abbey now became known as Edwardstow. Ethelred in 1001 gave the convent the town of Bradford, "that the nuns might have a safe refuge from the Danes." Canute died at Shaftesbury, Nov. 12, 1035, but was buried at Winchester. By successive donations the possessions of the abbey became so extensive that Fuller records an old saying, that "if the abbess of Shaftesbury might wed the abbot of Glastonbury, their heir would have more land than the King of England." The king on his accession had the right to nominate a nun. After the Dissolution the abbey estates were granted to Wriothsley, E. of Southampton, and now belong to the Duke of Westminster. In 1558, John Bradley, abbot of Milton, was consecrated suffragan Bp. of Shaftesbury. In the civil wars Shaftesbury was held alternately by the forces of the king and the parliament. The neutral body of *Clubmen*, formed to protect the district from both parties, met here Aug. 1645, when 50 of their leaders were seized by Fleet-

wood, by which, and their defeat on Hambledon Hill, the party was broken up. In 1672 this town was chosen by Anthony Ashley Cooper as the title of his earldom, which still continues in his family.

The abbey, which stood to the S. of Trinity Ch. between it and "the Park," appears to have been levelled with the ground immediately after the Dissolution, and few traces of it were known to exist till July, 1861, when excavations brought to light the foundations of an apsidal choir, with apsidal chapels to the N. and S., contained like those at Romsey in the thickness of a rectangular wall, with an encaustic tile pavement; and other architectural fragments testifying to the style of the ch. A fragment of the Abbey House stands to the S. of Trinity Church.

Holy Trinity, the chief ch. of the town, was rebuilt 1842 in the E.E. style. The vestry contains a library. The churchyard is ornamented with fine avenues of limes.

St. Peter's is an ancient building of Perp. character. The aisles and clerestory run the whole length of the ch. There is no chancel arch. The N. wall facing the High St. is surmounted by a remarkably rich battlemented parapet, elaborately carved with pomegranates, roses, portcullises, pointing to the early years of Henry VIII.'s reign, and shields bearing arms. The tower is sq. and massive. On the belfry wall are inscribed some quaint lines which may deserve perusal.

St. James's Ch., in the liberty of Alcester, was rebuilt in 1867 in the Dec. style, retaining the windows and ornamental parapets of the old church.

The streets are narrow, and still wear something of an antique appearance, though many improvements have been made by the late Marquis of Westminster. A new *Town Hall*, and a market-house 270 ft. long, chiefly for the sale of corn

and butter, and cattle market, have been erected.

In Salisbury Street are some *Alms-houses* of Tudor architecture, for men and women. The *Westminster College Hospital*, to the memory of the late Marquis, was opened 1874.

The Rev. James Granger, author of the 'Biographical History of England,' was born at Shaftesbury, 1716; also Lord Justice Lush, 1807.

The entrance to the *Park Walk*, so called from the abbey park, is close to the Grosvenor Arms. At the E. end are some remains of the abbey wall. It overlooks the country to the S. and S.W. The great eminence to the S. is *Melbury Hill*, the boundary of the high land of *Cranborne Chase*.

The *Castle Hill* is the W. end of the ridge, and commands a most extensive and beautiful landscape. On either side rises a conical hill, singularly alike, and each about 2 m. from Shaftesbury. That on the rt. is *Kingsettle*, a wooded point on the line of hill which terminates in Castle Hill; that on the l., the mitred summit of *Duncliff*.

Standing, as the town does, on an elevated ridge, it was formerly but scantily provided with spring-water, and the supply of this necessary article was brought on horses' backs from Enmore Green, near Motcombe, in the parish of Gillingham, until the liberality of the late Marquis of Westminster constructed engines and reservoirs in the town itself, conveying a good supply direct to the houses. Hence arose a curious custom which was annually observed here, discontinued since 1830. On the Monday before Holy Thursday the mayor proceeded to Enmore Green with a large fanciful broom, or *Byzant* (besom), as it was called, which he presented as an acknowledgment for the water to the steward of the manor, together with a calf's head, a pair of gloves, a gallon of ale, and 2 penny-loaves of wheaten bread. This ceremony being concluded, the

Byzant, which was usually hung with jewels and other costly ornaments, was returned to the mayor, and carried back to the town in procession. The Byzant last used is in the possession of Lady Theodora Guest.

1 m. N.W. is *Motcombe House* (Marchioness of Westminster), a plain modern mansion. The original of Fielding's "Parson Trulliber" was one Oliver, curate of Motcombe. The novelist resided at East Stower, 4 m. W.

In *Wincombe Park*, N.E., seat of Charles W. Gordon, Esq., rises the river *Nadder*, forming at its source a small lake, from which in the olden time the nuns of Shaftesbury were supplied with fish.]

Returning to the rly. at

102 m. we enter Dorsetshire, and crossing the *Lidden* reach

105½ m. GILLINGHAM Stat. (*Inns*: Phoenix, Railway Inn; Pop. 3177). The parish of Gillingham is of immense size; 41 miles in circuit, and containing 61,000 acres. The land was once chiefly forest, but is now almost entirely dairy pasture. It was a royal forest, often assigned in jointure to the queen consort. It was held by Margaret of France, Margaret of Anjou, Jane Seymour, Katharine Howard, Katharine Parr, and Anne of Denmark. It was disforested by Charles I. In early times Gillingham was a town of some importance. The *Witan* at which Edward the Confessor was accepted as King of England was held here 1042. ½ m. S.E. of the ch. stood a hunting lodge of our early kings, repaired by John, who frequently visited it, and by Henry III. Edw. I. spent his Christmas here, c. 1270. The foundations may still be traced. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in meagre Gothic in 1838, except the chancel, which is good Dec. It contains some good open benches, and recumbent effigies of John Jessop,

M.D., Fellow of Merton, d. 1615, and his brother John, vicar of this parish, d. 1625. Over the tower-arch is the long Latin epitaph of Edward Davenant, nephew of the Bp. of Salisbury, who, dispossessed in the Great Rebellion, lived to regain his vicarage.

Gildon, Pope's bitter critic, was born here, d. 1724.

"Yet then did Gildon draw his venal quill,
I wished the man a dinner and sat still."

Gillingham is a thriving and increasing town. It contains mills for flour, silk, rope and twine, sacking and flax, bacon-curing establishment, and a large brewery giving employment to many hands. A large number of bricks, tiles, and drain-tiles are also made here. The air is very salubrious, and the neighbourhood highly picturesque.

Wyke Hall (J. Aitken, Esq.) is 1 m. W.

Milton, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N., is a hamlet of Gillingham, with a rather attractive E.E. church, with apsidal chancel. *Milton Lodge* (Mrs. Matthews), *Stock Hill* (Col. P. W. Matthews), and *Kendells* (G. B. Matthews, Esq.) are handsome residences.

The three rivers, Stour, Shreen water, and Lidden, unite a little below the town.

[2 m. S. is *East Stower*, the *Manor House* of which (pulled down 1835) was the property of Fielding the novelist, in right of his mother. On her death he settled here with his first wife, but lived too expensively, and in less than 3 years had devoured the whole property with hounds, horses, and entertainments. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1842.

1 m. W. is *West Stower*, standing on an eminence. The *Ch.* is ancient, chiefly E.E. The Rev. Wm. Young, incumbent of West Stower, editor of 'Ainsworth's Dictionary,' was the prototype of Fielding's "Parson Adams." As an instance of his

absence of mind it is recorded, that once when chaplain to a regiment in Flanders he wandered in a reverie into the enemy's camp, and was only aroused to his error by his arrest. The commanding officer, perceiving the good man's simplicity, allowed him to return to his friends. To the N.E. the escarpment of the chalk from Hindon to Bradley Knoll forms the leading feature of the landscape. The wooded cone of *Dunctiff* has a very beautiful appearance. Its summit is encircled by a solitary entrenchment, partly concealed by the trees, and watered by a spring.

3 m. N.W. is *Silton*. The *Ch.* stands on a knoll above the Stour, commanding pleasing views. The arcade is E.E. To the N. is a chapel with a beautiful fan-traceried roof. A cumbrous marble monument, with a life-size effigy, commemorates Sir Hugh Wyndham, one of the justices of the Common Pleas, d. 1684.

4 m. N. of Gillingham (Semley 6 m., Wincanton 8 m.) stands the little market-town of

MERE (*Inns*: Ship, Talbot; Pop. 2607), on the borders of the 3 counties of Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset, in a wild and bleak down country, with wide views all round. The *Ch.* is one of the best in S. Wilts, of various dates, chiefly of the 14th and 15th centuries. It has a stately tower with lofty pinnacles, and within a richly carved oaken ceiling, good rood-screen, stalls, and parcloes. The clerestory is continued in the chancel. It is chiefly Perp., but the S. chapel and other parts are transitional from Dec. The chapel contains an altar-tomb and 2 brasses; one, a large and fine one, to the founder John Bettes-thorne, d. 1398, is remarkable for commemorating the dominical letter of the year; the other, imperfect, is probably for his son-in-law, Sir John Berkeley, d. 1427.

To the S. of the churchyard is a mediæval house, known as the *Chantry House*. On entering by the ori-

ginal entrance on the N. side, the doors opening from the hall to the kitchen and buttery may be seen on the left hand. To the N. of the churchyard adjoining the high road is a mediæval dwelling, now a barn. The eastern end was of two stories, each with a handsome fireplace. Beyond was the Hall with a fine open roof. In the street of Mere a mediæval shop of plain Perp. character deserves notice.

The ancient *Market House* was pulled down, and in 1866 a clock tower erected on its site at the expense of the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, to which duchy Mere belongs.

To the N.W. is the mound of the castle, which was built 1253 by Rich. E. of Cornwall, to whom Mere had been granted by his brother Hen. III. To the S.W. near the town is *Mere Park*, and 1 m. S. *Woodlands*, where the remains of the 15th centy. mansion of the Dodingtons deserve a visit. The *Hall* has 2 square-headed windows and a porch with a chamber over it. Adjoining the Hall on the N. is the oldest and most interesting portion of the house, consisting of a building of two stories of the 14th cent. The upper portion, now used as a cheese room, was the chapel. The piscina remains, and on the N. side is a good Dec. square-headed window, with flowing tracery. The E. window has Perp. tracery. At the W. end is a large Jacobean fireplace. The lower room has also a fireplace and a ceiling of this date. The whole has been sadly modernised and spoilt.

3 m. W. of Mere is Pen-Selwood, and the excavations known as *Pen Pits* (Rte. 20).

2 m. N.W. of Mere, on a precipitous jutting promontory, is *Whitesheet Castle*, considered by Hoare as a British work further strengthened by the Saxons. It occupies 15 acres, and is defended on the side most easy of access by triple ramparts.

Whitesheet Castle is considered by Bp. Clifford to have been the "*Petra Ægbryhti*," Egbert's stone, placed by Hoare at Brixton Deverel (Rte. 11). 2 m. further N. is *Long Knoll*.

3 m. W. is *Stourhead*, the beautiful seat of Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., planted on a range of lofty hills. It is well known for a fine collection of pictures, but more celebrated for the extreme beauty and decoration of its park and grounds. By the liberality of the owner the house is shown on Fridays, and the grounds at all times. The road to *Stourhead* from Mere passes on the l. *Zeals House* (Miss Chafyn Grove), a manor-house, formerly of the Chafyns, where is a carved roof of the same character as that at *Woodlands*. *Zeals Ch.* was built 1846. John Grove, who married the heiress of the Chafyns, was beheaded at Exeter in 1655 for his share in Penruddock's rising. In view on the rt. are the heights of *Whitesheet Camp* and *Bradley Knoll*.

Stourhead is entered by an embattled gatehouse, flanked by round towers, and beautifully ivied. The mansion consists of a centre, built after the designs of Colin Campbell in 1720, and of 2 wings added 1800, the former fronted by a Corinthian portico and 2 flights of steps, each terminated by a large ornamental basin, on the rims of which 2 sculptured birds lean forward in the attitude of drinking. The view embraces a foreground of beech-trees and Spanish chesnuts, remarkable for the large size of their trunks, and originally planted along the approach to old *Stourton House*, now destroyed. Of the pictures, and other curiosities, the following may be enumerated:—

In the *Entrance Hall*: portraits of the Hoare family, including one of Sir R. Colt Hoare the antiquary, by *Woodforde*; a small Landscape, *Hobbema*; a Welsh Mill, *Calcott*; the Cottage-door, *Collins*; the Broken

Pitcher and the Bird's Nest, *Witherington*; Bust of Pope, by *Roubiliac*.

In the *Saloon* (or dining-room): Three Children of Charles I., after *Vandyck*; Stonehenge and gateway of Malmesbury Abbey in water-colours; the Judgment of Midas, *S. Bourdon*; the Death of Dido, after *Guerchino*; the Rape of Helen, after *Guido Reni*; Antony and Cleopatra, *Raphael Mengs*; Portrait, *Angelica Kauffman*; the family arms in gold and precious stones; a piece of plate of silver-gilt, representing the story of Cyrus and Queen Tomyris, presented by the Corporation of London. On the marble chimneypiece, which is exceedingly handsome, is a head of Medusa.

In the *Cabinet Room*: Lake of Nemi, engraved by Vivares, *Claude*; a Seaport by Moonlight, *Vernet*; a Landscape, *G. Poussin*; a Landscape, *Nic. Poussin*; a Storm, with story of Jonah and the Whale, copy of *Nic. Poussin*; Lake Avernus, with Æneas and the Sibyl, *Turner*; a Landscape, *D. Teniers*; a Landscape, presented by the artist to his friend Zuccarelli, *Wilson*; Diana and her Nymphs, in a frame carved by Gibbons, *Zuccarelli*; 2 small Landscapes, *Bartolomeo*; Views at Venice, *Canaletti*. Here also is the beautiful *Cabinet* which gives name to the room, once belonging to Pope Sixtus V. It is made of ebony, agate, and lapis lazuli, fronted by pillars of precious stones, and inlaid with gold, and upon it are the heads of the Peretti family modelled in wax the Pope's forming the centre of the group, and a gold medal extremely scarce and valuable, struck in the reign of Elizabeth to commemorate the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

In the *Anteroom*: the Daughter of Herodias with the head of John the Baptist, *P. Battoni*, after *Guido Reni*; St. Peter denying Christ, and the Card-players, *Caravaggio*; St. Mark's, Venice, *Canaletti*; a Field of Battle, *Borgognone*; a Holy Family, *Palma*.

In the *Picture Gallery*: *Elijah*, restoring the Widow's Son to Life, *Rembrandt*, engraved by Earlom (considered the finest picture in the collection); St. John in the Wilderness, a sketch for the picture at Venice—2, a Peasant's head—3, Portrait of a Girl as St. Agnes, *Titian*; the Birth of our Saviour, *Ind. Caracci*; the Rape of the Sabines, and the Judgment of Hercules, *N. Poussin*; a Holy Family—2, Head of St. Francis, *Guido Reni*; a Holy Family, from the Barberini Palace, *Leon. da Vinci*; the Virgin and Child with St. John and St. Ambrose, *And. del Sarto*; the Magdalen washing the Feet of the Saviour—2, Sketch of an Apollo, *Paul Veronese*; the Marriage of St. Catherine, *Baroccio*; the Virgin and Child—2, the Good Shepherd, *Guerchino*; the Virgin and Child—2, St. John with the Lamb—3, an old man's head, *Schidone*; David and Goliath—2, Tobit and the Angel, *Pietro Francesco Mola*; the Adoration of the Kings, a fine work, *Cigoli*; the Flight into Egypt—2, portrait of the painter, with the 3 Graces—3, Hope, *Carlo Maratti*; an Old Woman, *Murillo*; Distress by sea and Distress by land, *Thompson*; the Triumph of Bacchus, copy of *Ann. Caracci*; Holy Family, *Fra Bartolomeo*; the Madonna, *Carlo Dolce*; Democritus, *Sal. Rosa*; Madonna and Child, *Carlo Cignani*; a Holy Family, after *Raphael*; Introduction of a young Carthusian to St. Teresa, *Pacchiarotto*; Madonna and Child, *Palma Vecchio*; the Emperor Charles V., after *Titian*, *Rubens*; Temptation of St. Anthony, *D. Teniers*; the Annunciation, *Albano*.

In the *Music-room*: St. Peter's, *P. Panini*; the Car of Cuthullin (from Ossian), *Cooper*; Sheep and interior, *Morland*; Cattle, *Cruyk*; the Dumb Girl talking, *Northcote*; Diana and Actæon, *Calcott* and *Owen*; a storm by land and a storm by sea, *Nicholson*; the Martyrdom of St. Peter, after *Titian*, *F. Mola*; Peasant Children, *Gains-*

borough; a scene in the East Indies, *T. Daniell*; Head of a Child, *Holbein*.

In the *Library* are some remarkable drawings by *Canaletti*, representing 10 of the most celebrated buildings in Venice, arranged around a portrait of Petrus Landi, Doge in 1538. In this room are also the busts of Milton, when young and old, by *Rysbræck*; and a window by *Egginton*, with figures copied from Raphael's School of Athens.

The *Museum* of antiquities collected by the late Sir R. C. Hoare and Mr. Cunningham has been transferred by the present Baronet to the house of Wiltshire Archaeological Society at Devizes (Rte. 5).

A visitor to the *Pleasure-grounds*—after passing the gate-house, descends between banks of turf and hedges of laurel to the hamlet of

Stourton, a group of pretty cottages, ancient church, and *Inn*, in a little wooded dell. The *Church* is a small building, with embattled tower, rising from a churchyard decked with flowers, containing a lofty stone cross, the mausoleum of the Hoare family, and a monumental tower enclosing the marble tomb and remains of *Sir Richard Colt Hoare*. In the church are memorials of the Stourtons, including the effigy of a lady of the 14th cent. inclosed in a kind of box, and the effigies of Edward, the 5th baron, d. 1536, and his lady Agnes Fauntleroy, and a mural monument to Henry Hoare, Esq., 1785, with inscription by the pen of Hayley.

Opposite the church is the entrance to the *Pleasure-grounds*, where the confined scene of Stourton suddenly gives place to a large and beautiful lake of 30 acres, and 2 m. in circuit, embosomed in wooded hills, which open in distant vistas ascending through the park. Near the entrance stands the *High Cross of Bristol*, erected in that city about 1373. It is an elaborate piece of stonework, decorated with the statues

of 8 of our monarchs, King John, Henry III., Edward I., Edward III., Henry VI., Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., the four last added in 1633. It was taken down in 1733, and shortly afterwards given by Dean Barton, whose brother was rector of Stourton, to Mr. Henry Hoare, who re-erected it where it now stands. Descending to the level of the lake, the visitor passes the *Temple of the Muses*, *Paradise Well*, and an old font removed from the church. Pursuing the path which follows the windings of the shore, the visitor will observe a silver beech of extraordinary beauty, and a thorn-tree on which a mountain-ash has been engrafted. A view now opens on the rt. up *Six Wells Bottom* to *St. Peter's Pump*, a plain hexagonal building with coarse sculptures, another relic from Bristol, covering the six sources of the Stour. The path next crosses an arm of the lake, and winding past the *Swan House* dives into the *Grotto*, where the Stour, conducted underground from the Six Wells, is poured forth from the urn of the river god. A sleeping nymph in marble reclines by a bath in another recess, the following lines by Pope (from Card. Bembo) being inscribed on the rock:—

"Nymph of the grot, these sacred springs I
keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;
Ah! spare my slumbers, gently tread the
cave,
And drink in silence, or in silence lave."

Emerging from this cavern, the visitor threads a beech-grove to a spring, which, rising under a tulip-tree, flows swiftly to the lake. Beyond is the portico of the *Pantheon*, a miniature copy of that at Rome, decorated with several statues, including an antique marble of Livia Augusta in the character of Ceres. Hercules and Flora, by *Rysbræck*. In the portico are Alexander and Pompey (antique), and on the outside Ceres and Minerva. The coun-

ties of Wilts and Somerset meet in the centre of the building; and on the hill to the W. of it is an ancient *camp*, of 7 acres, formed by a double line of ramparts. The path now turns in the direction of the house, and affords a view of the *Cascade*. Beyond it is reached the foot of a dense wood, first planted on the naked down by Sir R. C. Hoare, where, midway on the hill, stands the *Temple of the Sun*, designed after that at Baalbec, and commanding a bird's-eye view of lake and garden. Trees of fantastic growth next claim attention, and the visitor ascends again to the beautiful Bristol Cross, from which he started.

Alfred's Tower occupies a magnificent point of view called *Kingsettle*, one of the loftiest of the greensand hills 800 ft. above the sea. It is plainly seen from all parts of the neighbouring counties, and every visitor should ascend it. The key will be found at the adjoining lodge, which commands an extensive view to the S. It is 3 m. distant from the house, but strangers are not allowed to drive to it through the park; they will pursue the old British road, or *Hardway*, by which Alfred is supposed to have advanced from the fastnesses of Selwood to the attack of the Danes. The tower was erected by Henry Hoare, Esq., in memory of that event, and is a triangular building of red brick, 150 ft. high, flanked at each corner by a slender tower. The entrance is on the E. side, surmounted by a colossal statue of Alfred and a tablet bearing the following inscription:—"Alfred the Great, A.D. 879, on this summit erected his standard against Danish invaders. To him we owe the origin of juries, the establishment of a militia, the creation of a naval force. Alfred, the light of a benighted age, was a philosopher and a Christian, the father of his people, the founder of the English monarchy and liberty." The roads down the hill are very beautiful.

1 m. S. of the tower rises an enormous mound, vulgarly called *Jack's Castle*, long considered as a beacon but originally sepulchral, Sir R. C. Hoare having found in it the remains of a warrior buried with his weapons.

Stourhead is the name given to this place since its purchase by the Hoares. It was originally called Stourton, and belonged to a family of that name as early as Edward I.'s reign. John S. was created Baron Stourton in 1448. In Queen Anne's reign Edward the twelfth lord sold it to Sir Thomas Meres, Kt., from whose heirs it was purchased, in 1720, by Henry Hoare, Esq., founder of the London banking-house, and ancestor of the present proprietor.

For the remarkable story connected with the Stourtons—the murder of the *Hartgills* by Charles Lord Stourton, in the reign of Queen Mary, 1556, see Rte. 8, p. 95.

Kilmington Ch. lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Stourhead. It has a fine lofty tower, groined within. Close to Kilmington S. is *Blackwater Spring*, one of the sources of the *Wylfe*; and in *West End Wood*, 1 m. W., is the source of the *Brue*. 1 m. N.E. is the *Long Knoll*, 973 ft. above the sea, the extreme W. point of the Chalk of Salisbury Plain.]

Proceeding on our route we pass at 109 m. rt. Buckhorn Weston.

110 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. we cross the *Cale*, flowing from Wincanton, and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. further the *Bow Brook*, which, uniting their waters below, are joined by the Liddon near Stalbridge. Here we enter Somersetshire, and continue in the county till we pass Milborne Port.

112 m. *Temple Combe Junction Stat.* —[Here the S. W. Rly. crosses the Somerset and Dorset line from Highbridge and Burnham on the Gt. Western line to Wimborne and Poole (Rte. 19) forming a communication between the Bristol and English Channels.]

Temple Combe takes its name from a commandery of the Knights Templars, the only establishment held by them in the county, to whom it was granted c. 1185. Some small remains are still to be seen in the garden of the *Manor House*, now a farm S. of the village, confined to portions of the walls, some windows, and a doorway of the *Chapel*.

113 m. rt. *Stowell* has a manor house retaining many original features, rewarding notice. It has been despoiled of its oak panelling, and other ancient portions, removed elsewhere. One of its Perp. windows is to be seen in the dovecot at *Horsington Rectory*. The manor belonged to the family of Hody, one of whom was Lord Chief Justice in 1441. He is classed by *Ld. Campbell* among those who "do not call for any particular remark." The Hodys sold it in 1720 to Robert Knight, the cashier of the South Sea Company. On the bursting of the "Bubble" Knight had to fly the country, and *Stowell* was sold to George Dodding-ton in 1723.

114½ m. *Milborne Port Stat.*, 1½ m. N. of the town of that name. Close to the station is the very large earth-work of *Milborn Wick*, a natural peninsula fortified by a mound on the only assailable side. (*Inn*: King's Head; Pop. 1814), a small collection of cottages, with a manufacture of shoes, and highly respectable for its antiquity. It returned representatives in the reign of Edward I., and not again till that of Charles I., but was disfranchised by the first Reform Act. The *Church* is a massive cruciform structure of Norman date, with an embattled tower rising from the centre, on 2 circular and 2 pointed arches. The nave and north transept was rebuilt in 1867. There are painted windows by Clayton and Bell, and one by O'Connor. The W. end is of Anglo-Saxon character. The N. side of the tower and S. side of the chancel are

ornamented with intersecting arcades. The north transept contains the monuments of the *Medlycotts*.

The *Guild Hall* has a Norman doorway. In the street are the socket and steps of an ancient *cross*.

Milborne Port during the Rebellion was occupied for some time by *Cromwell's* soldiers, who, it is said, stole the Bible from the church. This so incensed the inhabitants that they rose to a man and drove the soldiers from the town.

Ven (Sir William C. Medlycott, Bart.) lies close to the town, S.E. The scene is exceedingly pretty; a branch of the *Yeo* winds beneath the wooded crescent of *Henover Hill* on its course to *Sherborne Castle*. *Ven* is a red-brick mansion; its front inlaid with stone, and its wings pierced by large archways. It is attributed to *Inigo Jones*.

1½ m. is *Charlton Horethorne*, the *Church* of which has a good pinnacled tower and is worth notice. A N. chapel of superior workmanship belonged to the Prior of *Kenilworth*, the impropiator of the rectory.

The top of *Bullstake Hill*, 1½ E., commands extensive views E. and W. *Shaftesbury* and *Alfred's Tower* are conspicuous in the former direction.

At 115½ m. the Rly. crosses the river *Yeo*, and re-enters *Dorsetshire*.

116¾ m. l., site of *Oborne Church*, which has been pulled down with the exception of a chancel window, over which is an inscription, and rebuilt in another position. The woods of *Sherborne Castle* cover the hills on the l., which sweep round to *Sherborne* in the form of a crescent. Passing through the suburb of *Castleton*, the traveller reaches

118 m. *SHERBORNE* (*Inns*: *Digby Hotel*, near the station, large, and in every way commendable; *Antelope*, excellent; Pop. 5717). A clean town of stone houses, the resort of sportsmen during the hunting season,

the neighbouring district being hunted by as many as three packs of hounds. It is pleasantly situated on the S. slope of a steepish hill descending to the valley of the Ivel or Yeo. Its general appearance is quaint, and "the quiet aspect of its grey stone buildings, with stone-tiled roofs and mullioned windows, lying pleasantly among gardens and orchards," impresses the visitor very favourably. To the archæologist it is very attractive, for besides the church, and the remains of the abbey buildings incorporated with the school, Sherborne retains a fair number of ancient houses, though too many (including the famous *New Inn* figured in Parker's 'Dom. Arch. of the Middle Ages,' ii., 348) have of late years been destroyed, or new-fronted and otherwise spoilt. The principal street, still bearing its A.-S. name of *Cheap Street*, descends the hill from the N. *Long Street* intersects it at rt. angles, and runs up E. to *Castleton* and the gates of the old castle. The ground on the S. side of the river and of the rly. rises rapidly, and is laid out in public walks commanding a wide view. The richly-wooded park and lake to the S.E. is a very agreeable feature in the surrounding landscape.

The town takes its A.-S. name *Scireburn* from the transparent waters of the Yeo, or Ivel (*scir burne* A.-S. = bright brook) which flows in the valley. As usual, little is known of its early history; but it was of sufficient importance in the time of King Ine, A.D. 705, to be chosen as the seat of a bishoprick. The first Bishop of Sherborne was the learned Aldhelm (see *ante*, Malmesbury, Rte. 1). Twenty-six prelates succeeded him here, including Asser, the biographer, and friend of Alfred the Great, A.D. 900. The line of Bishops of Sherborne ended in Herman, who, 1078, removed the see to Old Sarum, but the castle continued to be an episcopal residence until it fell into the hands of the crown after its siege by Stephen

in 1139. It was dignified by being made the burial-place of two kings, Ethelbald and Ethelbert, the brothers of King Alfred. It suffered severely from the ravages of the Danes, by whom it was burnt and plundered. Its rise from its fallen fortunes was so slow, that William of Malmesbury expresses his surprise that so mean a place could have been for so many years the seat of a bishopric. Its prosperity gradually was increased through the establishment of the cloth manufacture, and the traffic of the great western road, which made it in Leland's time "the most frequented town in the county." Later on, button and lace making were introduced, and in 1740 *silk-throwing*, which is now its only manufacture, employing many hundred hands.

The *Abbey Church* of St. Mary the Virgin (5 minutes' walk to the N. of Rly. station) is the chief object of attraction, and will repay a long and careful survey. "It is a Norman church, rebuilt and recast so that nearly all of it has become Perpendicular" (*E. A. F.*), of which style it exhibits one of the richest and most beautiful examples. Its restoration, by the munificence of the late Earl Digby, and his heir, the present G. D. Wingfield Digby, Esq., of Sherborne Castle, has invested it with a degree of splendour almost unparalleled.

The whole ch., with the exception of the Lady-chapel, which remains desecrated, was restored with much ability and success by the late Mr. Carpenter and his pupil Mr. Slater. The work of the nave and transepts commenced June, 1848, was completed in 1851, at the cost of nearly 14,000*l.*, more than one-half being borne by Lord Digby. The cost of the restoration of the choir and its aisles, nearly 18,000*l.*, was borne exclusively by Mr. Wingfield Digby, between 1856 and 1858.

Sherborne was never a church of

the first rank, either in design or dimensions. Its low central tower, with its insignificant pinnacles, and want of picturesqueness of outline, render the exterior heavy and uninviting; nor are the faults of design atoned for by imposing magnitude. The length of the church from E. to W. is only 200 ft., that of the transepts from N. to S. 95 ft.; the height of the tower is 109 ft, that of the roof 60 ft. But on a nearer view many of its defects of form disappear, and the exceeding richness of the interior, and the magnificence of its recent ornamentation, fully redeem its external deficiencies. The whole is built of the rich-tinted and fine-grained Hamhill stone. Sherborne was constituted a Benedictine Abbey in 1139 by Bishop Roger, of Sarum, to whose passion for building the original fabric of the church which still survives in the main under its later accretions may probably be assigned. "It is essentially a Norman church entirely transformed, the nave and presbytery into the Perpendicular style. The transepts, tower, and other appendages still retain Norman characteristics, with E.E. insertions and additions, especially a portion of a fine Lady-chapel at the E. end. The Perp. work is of an unusually grand and beautiful character, and has the advantage of being accurately dated." —*Willis*. The walls of the transepts show Norman masonry, and one of the round-headed windows may be seen in the clerestory of the E. side of the S. transept. The Perp. clerestory of the nave and choir is unusually fine and lofty. The latter is supported by flying buttresses springing from rich crocketed pinnacles. One of the most interesting features of the exterior is—or rather was before the alteration—the Norman S. porch attached to the westernmost bay of the nave. This was rebuilt from the ground by Mr. Carpenter, during the restoration in 1850. In the lower part the stones

were accurately replaced, but the upper portion or *parvise*, which had been made to harmonize with the general design of the exterior when the nave was rebuilt by Abbot Ramsam, was unhappily restored in the Norman style after a modern design. The W. window is a fine Perp. composition of 9 lights.

At the W. end of the ch. are the remains of the parochial ch. of *All-hallows*, consisting of part of the wall of the N. aisle and four responds or semi-pillars engrafted into the W. front of the minster. The style is Dec. or Early Perp. These remains indicate a three-aisled ch. of 6 bays in length, the easternmost being occupied by a vestibule common to the two churches, communicating by doors now built up.

At the Dissolution, 1540, the abbey ch. of Sherborne was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir John Horsey, by whom it was sold to the parishioners for 100 marks. On this, there being no further use for Allhallows ch., as we learn from Leland, it was taken down.

Wherever a monastery existed in a town, quarrels between the monks and the parishioners were of constant occurrence in the middle ages; the former always endeavouring to eject the latter, or embitter their occupation of the church they held in common, and they in their turn were not scrupulous in the means they adopted to annoy their conventual neighbours. Sherborne was no exception. A deadly feud raged in the 15th centy. between the monks and townsmen, which ended in the destruction by fire of the whole eastern limb, and the splendid re-edification of the whole. The cause of quarrel was whether the children of the townspeople were to be baptized in a new font in the parish ch. as of immemorial custom, or in the Abbey font; this, it seems, had been removed to an inconvenient part of their ch. by the monks, who at the

same time had narrowed the door of communication between the two churches (still to be seen at the W. end of the S. aisle), to the great annoyance of the parishioners, who vented their spite by unseemly ringing of bells disturbing the conventual services. The matter was referred to Bp. Nevil of Salisbury in 1437, who decided against the parishioners. This did not stop the feud. "A stout butcher" of Sherborne, named Walter Gallor, siding with the monks, took upon himself to break the illegal font, which exasperated the townspeople so much that in Leland's words "the variance grew to a plain sedition, until a priest of Allhallows shot a shaft with fire into the top of that part of St. Mary Church that divided the east part that the monks used, from that the townsmen used; and this partition chancing at that time to be thatched in, the roof was set on fire, and consequently all the whole church, the lead and bells melted, was defaced." This disaster rendered the re-edification of the ch. necessary. The whole eastern limb was rased to the ground, and the present *choir*, "a fine and magnificent design of the period" (*Willis*), erected in the time of Abbot Bradford, 1436-59, the townsmen being forced to make amends for the destruction they had caused by contributing to its building. After the choir was completed, the *nave* was reconstructed in the Perp. style by Abbot Peter Ramsam (or de Rampisham), 1475-1504. The nave appears to have suffered less from the fire; the Norm. piers were not therefore taken down, but recased, as at Winchester, in the later style, and surmounted by an entirely new clerestory. The *transepts* retain their Norman masonry, with the insertion of large Perp. windows, and the addition of roofs of the same style. Three of the *tower arches* obtrude their plain Norm. semi-circles into the midst of the richness around them. The fourth arch to the east

was boldly removed by the rebuilders of the choir so as to leave the fan-vaulting uninterrupted.

The ch. is usually entered by the Norm. S. porch. The interior presents a splendid effect, chiefly due to the unusual magnificence of the fan vaults which cover the whole church with the exception of the S. transept, all ablaze with gilded ribs and bosses, and gorgeous heraldic decorations, among which the arms of the Digbys, of Sherborne Abbey, and the See of Salisbury, may be noticed. The nave is divided into 5 bays by panelled arches of irregular width owing to the retention of the Norman piers, which are simply cased in the Perp. style. Part of the original Norman pier may be seen at the first respond on each side. The vaulting shafts are supported by angels bearing shields, and shields also occur at the apex of the arches, bearing the rebuses of Abbot Ramsam (a ram and the syllable *sam*), Bp. Langton, and the arms of Sherborne and Milton Abbeys. The *S. aisle* is known as St. Mary's aisle; that to the N., the *Trinity aisle*, has the only Dec. windows in the ch. The glass of the great W. window was restored by Hardman in 1841.

Moving eastwards we reach the *transepts*, and notice the 3 heavy Norm. arches supporting the *tower*. It will be observed that the transept arches are narrower than the other pair, and are stilted to bring their beams to the same level. The *belfry* story, now hidden by the rich fan-vault, was originally open as a lantern. The Norm. arcades, though walled up, may be seen inside. The huge cylindrical Norm. buttress filling up the E. angles of the W. tower piers, and the Norm. arches opening from the aisles into the transept, should here be noticed. Here we may mention that the *great bell*, recast in 1866, was the gift of Cardinal Wolsey, who in the early part of his career was rector of

Limington, near Ilchester. It was the smallest of 7 brought from Tournay; the others were given to Lincoln, Exeter, Oxford, &c.

The *N. transept* contains a magnificent organ, by Gray and Davison, the tones of which peal gloriously beneath the vaulted roof. The bosses of this ceiling are the finest in the church. On the E. side of the transept is a small chapel, retaining Norm. walls and traces of work of the same date, known as the *Wickham Chapel*.

The *S. transept* has a framed roof of black Irish oak. The S. window is one of noble dimensions filled with glass by Hardman after a design by Pugin, illustrating the "Te Deum." On the W. wall is a cumbersome monument to John Digby, Earl of Bristol, d. 1698, with statues of himself and 2 wives by *Nost*, an Italian sculptor, and an epitaph by Bp. Hough. Below the "Te Deum" window a tablet to the memory of 2 children of William Lord Digby challenges notice by an epitaph from the pen of Pope.

The *choir* presents a tout-ensemble of unusual magnificence with its intricate-traceried roof, glowing with rich colour, its painted windows, its panelled walls, gorgeous with polychrome, its sculptured reredos, metal candelabra and gates, carved oak stalls, and encaustic tiled floor. The general impression is one of harmonious richness. The visitor will notice the deep Indian-red of the stonework, the effects of the conflagration, which contributes no little to the general richness of effect. The altar or martyr window, and those of the clerestory, are filled with painted glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell of London. In the former are represented the Entry into Jerusalem, the Agony and Betrayal, the Ecce Homo, the Bearing the Cross, the Crucifixion and Resurrection, and, in the tracery, the various orders of martyrs; in the latter, life-size figures

of saints, &c., and of the bishops of the ancient see of Sherborne. The reredos designed by Mr. Carpenter, a rich work of Caen stone, forms a frame-work for 2 large subjects in alto-relievo, designed by Mr. Slater, the Last Supper, and Ascension; and near it is a monumental brass in memory of the late Lord Digby, to whose munificence the present beautiful appearance of the nave is mainly due.

Adjoining the N. choir aisle is an E. E. chapel with an eastern triplet, known as Bp. Roger's Chapel. This is now used as a vestry, and contains some of the incongruous monuments that formerly disfigured the church. This has been "ingeniously formed by building 2 E. E. walls to form N. and E. sides, and utilising the E. wall of Bp. Roger's Chapel and the N. wall of the aisle, decorated with the external Norm. intersecting arcades." — *Willis*. In this aisle are some remains of early monuments, including mutilated effigies of several early Abbots and a fragment of the tombstone of Abbot Clement, 1163. In the procession path behind the high altar, lie the Saxon kings Ethelbald and Ethelbert, elder brothers of Alfred.

The Horsey monument with effigies of Sir John, d. 1546, and Dame Edith his wife, d. 1564, has been removed to the Wickham Chapel. *Sir Thomas Wyatt*, the poet, is said to be buried in the ch., but there is no monument to him. Here also rests Asser, Alfred's biographer. In St. Catherine's Chapel is a canopied tomb with effigies to John Lewston, d. 1584, and his wife Joan.

The E. E. Lady-chapel to the E. of the choir escaped the conflagration, and is noticed by Leland as "an old piece of work that the fire came not to." The opening of the Lady-chapel to the ch. was by a fine E. E. arch, now blocked: the centre not coinciding with that of the choir, the corbels of the fan-vault of the

procession path are out of symmetry. It was of three bays; two were pulled down at the Dissolution, and the remainder, together with a fragment of Abbot Ramsam's chapel of "Our Lady of Bow," at the E. end of the S. aisle, was converted in 1559 into a residence for the master of the recently-founded Free School, with the co-operation of Jewell, then Bishop of Salisbury, whose shield is seen in the very picturesque S. façade of the building, beneath the Royal Arms. The E.E. vaults of the Lady-chapel, and the rich fan-traceried ceiling of the later chapel, may be seen in the upper rooms of the house, which is now used as an infirmary for sick boys, a new residence having been built for the master.

After the Abbey Church, the chief object of attraction to the visitor is the *King's or Grammar School*, which has of late years outgrown its original dimensions, and now consists of buildings occupying five courts. This school, founded in 1550 by Edw. VI., when Protector Somerset was residing at Sherborne Castle, contests with that of Bury St. Edmunds the title to be the earliest of the young king's educational foundations. Under a succession of able and energetic head-masters, Sherborne Grammar School has gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the leading public schools of the S.W. of England. The remains of the Abbey buildings, which lay to the N. of the ch., after centuries of desecration, were in 1851 presented by Edward, Earl Digby, to the governors of the *Grammar or King's School*, and have been incorporated in its buildings. They consist of a fragment of the *Monks' Dormitory*, attached to the N. transept; the *Guesten Hall* (erroneously called the Refectory), long used as a silk mill, subsequently the School-room, and now the *Library*, running northwards from the N. angle of the W. front of

the Abbey Ch.; the *Abbots' Hall* (at right angles to the Guesten Hall), now the *School Chapel*—consecrated in 1855, extended 1865—to which the N. or *Harper Aisle* was added 1878 and prolonged 1881, in commemoration of Dr. Harper, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, for 27 years the head-master; and, to the S. E. of the chapel, the *Abbots' Lodging*, now converted into studies. The *Guesten Hall* and *Chapel* are Perp., with fine oak roofs, standing upon a restored vaulted Norm. substructure. The *Abbot's Lodging* is a singularly picturesque building, with a fine canopied doorway now blocked, and niches, with remains of the Evangelistic symbols. The *Library* contains among other curious and valuable books a remarkable collection of Bibles in Irish, Gothic, Red Indian, and other languages, the musical works of Orlando di Lasso, &c.

There are two entrances to the school precincts, that for the general public to the N., where the visitor will find a porter's lodge, and obtain the keys of the chapel, library, &c.; and a private entrance to the head master's house to the S., close to the east gate of the church close, contiguous to the old Lady-chapel. Over this latter doorway is a Latin couplet recording the foundation of the school. Passing through this doorway another curious Latin inscription may be read, and if possible deciphered by the visitor, on the S. face of the *Old School-room*, built in 1670 (now the dining-hall of the *School-house*), and containing a statue of the royal founder. The distich is from the pen of Mr. John Goodenough, head-master 1670-1684. The sum of the capital letters will be found to make up the date of the erection.

On entering by the porter's lodge, the school quadrangle, formerly the Abbey Litten or cemetery (A. S. *lic*, corpse, *tun*, enclosure), we have on the W. side of the area, now the

principal court of the school, a very stately new *School-room*, with its long line of roof picturesquely broken by tall gabled windows, erected, 1879, from the designs of Messrs. Carpenter and Ingelow. Facing the entrance, S., are the *School Chapel* and the *Abbot's Lodging* (see above). Stretching along the E. side is the *Head Master's House*, with dormitories, &c., attached. Beyond this, E., are the *Bell Buildings*, erected by Dr. Lyon in 1835, now forming part of the school-house and connecting it with the old school-room (see above). At the S.W. corner of the court a small inner quadrangle is formed by the chapel, library, and a picturesque block of *Class-rooms* connected with the new school-room by a cloister. Still further to the W. are workshops, a laboratory, lecture-room, museum, five courts, and a large swimming-bath supplied by a running stream.

To the S.E. of the ch. is one of the gateways of the Abbey, beyond which at the bottom of Cheap St. stands the *Abbey Conduit*, erected by Abp. Frith, 1349-71, groined within, bearing the escutcheon of Sir John Horsey, who removed it from the centre of the cloisters. The S. side of the Abbey Close facing Half-Moon Street is occupied by the *Church House*, an ancient but mutilated building deserving notice.

The old *Vicarage*, an interesting 14th cent. building, has been pulled down. The less that is said of its successor the better.

After the ch. and school the most interesting object in the town of Sherborne is the *Alms House*, or properly the *Hospital of St. John Baptist*, founded in 1406, on the basis of an older institution. The buildings were erected in 1448 and are a very good example of their class, including a Hall below, with dormitories over each opening to the E. into a chapel, the whole height of the buildings parted off by a screen. Some good

glass remains in the S. windows. Additional buildings in excellent style by Mr. Slater were erected in 1865. In one of the rooms is a Triptych of the Flemish school, representing our Lord's 3 acts of raising the dead, and other of His miracles.

St. Thomas-a-Becket's Chapel, in the higher part of the town, now a School of Art, preserves some traces of antiquity.

The *Yeatman Memorial Hospital*, erected 1865 in memory of the Rev. H. F. Yeatman of Stock House, in the upper part of the abbey precinct, harmonizes with the general architectural character of the town.

Pack-Monday Fair is held at Sherborne on the Monday after Old Michaelmas Day, the anniversary of the completion of the nave by Abbot Ramsam, when, according to the tradition, the workmen were ordered to pack and be off by midnight on Sunday; and now, annually, the clocks striking 12 is followed by a din of horn-blowing, clattering of tin kettles, and other rude instruments of music.

Sherborne was the birthplace of *Joseph Towers*, a learned divine, b. 1737, and here the tragedian *Macready* found a retreat from the stage, and devoted himself to the educational improvement of his poorer neighbours.

After inspecting the ch. and school the traveller should proceed up *Long St.* to the ruins of the *Castle* to the E. of the town. The entrance to the Castle is at the lodge by *Castleton Ch.*, a small Jacobean building. The Castle occupies a rising knoll of rock capped with gravel, at the junction of brooks, forming a natural defence, one of which now feeds the ornamental water. The Castle was from the 8th century the principal residence of the Bps. of Sherborne, and was confirmed to the see of Sarum by Wm. the Conqueror. The existing Castle was the work of Bp. Roger, 1107-42, Henry I.'s warlike Chan-

cellor, the great church and castle builder of his age. The Bp. having espoused the side of the Empress Maud, his Castle was seized by Stephen 1139, retaken by Maud, and retained in the hands of the Crown under various pleas for 200 years. In 1337 it was alienated by Edw. III. to Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, from whom it was recovered by Bp. Wyvil in 1355. The Bp. challenged the Earl to wager of battle. The champions were appointed and the day fixed, when a compromise was effected, the Bp. securing possession of the stronghold of his see for the payment of 2500 marks. In 1375 he died at his castle, in defence of which he had proved himself a "pugil intrepidus," as he is styled on his brass in Salisbury Cathedral, which bears a rude representation of this stronghold. In the spoliation of the Church that followed the accession of Edw. VI. it was made over to Protector Somerset, but restored subsequently to the see, and finally alienated to Sir Walter Raleigh by Bp. Cotton as the price of his promotion. Raleigh before his conviction settled the estate on his son, but an accidental flaw in the deed enabled James I. to wrest it from him and bestow it on his minion, Carr, Earl of Somerset. It is said that Lady Raleigh begged the monarch on her knees to spare her son's heritage, but his only reply was "I maun hae the lond; I maun hae it for Carr." On Somerset's conviction for Overbury's murder the land reverted to the Crown, and was granted by James to Sir G. Digby, twice ambassador to Spain, created Earl of Bristol 1618. In the Great Rebellion it was one of the first fortresses attacked by the Parliamentarians, and one of the last to hold out for the King. In 1642 it was held by the Marquis of Hertford for the King against the Earl of Bedford. The Earl's sister, Lady Anne Digby, who was then staying at the Lodge, rode to her brother's quarters

and told him, if he persisted in his purpose of demolishing the Castle and Lodge, "he should find his sister's bones buried in the ruins." The siege continuing, the Marquis was hard pressed, and offered to surrender on conditions. If they were not accepted, he threatened to place Lady Anne as a flag of defiance on the battlements. On the 5th day the Earl raised the siege. In 1645 Sir Lewis Dives, Lord Bristol's stepson, being governor, after a siege of 16 days, it was taken by Fairfax on his triumphant progress through the West, who found in it so much plunder that he held a fair on the occasion. Sir L. Dives, Sir John Strangways, 55 gentlemen, and 600 soldiers, were taken prisoners. The castle was then destroyed, in the language of the time "slighted," by order of the Parliament, and with a part of its materials were built Castleton church and the wings of the present mansion. The last incident of any consequence that occurred at Sherborne Castle was the visit of the Prince of Orange, who slept in the modern mansion on his road from Torbay to London, 1688.

The castle is entered by the *Gate House*, "a very peculiar and interesting structure, certainly Norman" (*G. T. Clark*), picturesquely clothed with ivy. A Norman chimney-shaft at the N.W. angle deserves attention. The windows are Tudor. The remains of the Castle are chiefly confined to the solid walls of the *Keep*. A very noble cylindrical pillar still stands supporting the floor of the Hall above, which has perished, and there are some dark barrel-vaulted apartments of the substructure. Of the *Chapel*, which projected at right angles to the N.E., with a vaulted basement for stores, the walls alone remain; that to the S., ornamented with an intersecting arcade resembling that in Bp. Roger's work in the minster. On the N. is a good Norm. window, and there are remains of

the E. window with a bold chevron moulding. The chapel was on the upper story, and the traces of the projecting staircase are still visible. Another building, also of two spires, projects S. at right angles to the chapel. The basement was barrel-vaulted. The upper room may have been the Hall.

Passing through the Castle Green verdant banks clothed with wood and shrubbery slope down to the lake, enlivened by numerous swans, on the S. side of which rises the present *Castle* (G. D. Wingfield Digby, Esq.) formerly known as "the Lodge," a quaint and picturesque structure. The regular way of approach to it and the park is from the other side of the river. The house is not usually shown ; but the exterior may be seen by all, as there is a public footway through the park. The ground-plan is in the form of the letter H, consisting of a centre and two far-projecting wings, the former built by Sir Walter Raleigh, 1594, the latter by the Earl of Bristol, after the Restoration. The entrance into the court-yard is by an arch of Hamhill stone, surmounted by the crest of the Digbys, an ostrich holding a horseshoe in its beak, a device which originated in the vulgar notion that this bird could digest iron. Over the central doorway appear the arms of Sir Walter Raleigh, with the date 1594. The house contains several portraits of the Digby family, including one of Sir Kenelm Digby, the Countess of Southampton by *Corn. Jansen*, and a full-length of Dogget, the actor, by *Murray* ; also the Procession of Queen Elizabeth, a noted picture by *Mark Gerrard* of Bruges. It probably represents Elizabeth in a sedan-chair, as she was carried to Blackfriars to the marriage of Lord Herbert and Anne, daughter of John Lord Russell, June, 1600, by 6 noblemen of her court, Lord Cobham carrying the sword of state before her, Knights

of the Garter walking in advance, and ladies following in the train. The furniture and fittings of the interior are in admirable keeping.

The *Park*, of over 300 acres, rises steeply to the S. and is well wooded. Towards the E. side are a number of huge old oaks, perfect giants of their race. It is a delightful place for a long ramble, every now and then rousing the herds of deer from the fern. The platforms will be noticed among the branches of the trees where the keepers are posted to bring down a stag. The view from *Jerusalem Hill* is very wide and beautiful. The pleasure grounds near the house, where, in the words of Pope, who visited "the good Lord Digby" here and described the place in a long letter to Martha Blount "you lose your eyes in the glimmering of the waters under the wood, and your ears in the constant dashing of the waves," were laid out by the famous "Capability Brown." A stone seat is pointed out as the spot where Raleigh was in the habit of smoking, with a lower stone for the bowl of the pipe to rest on. The Dairy contains a tessellated pavement discovered on Lenthay Common.

The tourist should not omit to walk past the school cricket-ground to the *Cemetery*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. from the town, for the sake of the splendid Mortuary Chapel, in the Italian Gothic style, of Hamhill stone, with columns of Devonshire, Irish, and Italian marble, erected by Mr. Digby at an immense cost. The arch of entrance is richly carved, and encloses a bas-relief of the Resurrection. Within is a bas-relief of the entombment of Christ. The windows are filled with stained glass, and the sacrarium is paved in mosaic.

[The country round Sherborne is agreeably diversified with hill and dale, naked downs and sheltered valleys, and it may be chosen as a centre for rural walks and drives by

a tourist with time at his [disposal]. *Trent*, the hiding-place of Charles II., with its beautiful *Ch.* (see Rte. 23), is $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. *Sandford Orcas*, of which Bp. Godwin, author of the Catalogue of Bishops, was rector, with its fine Elizabethan Manor House, 3 m. N., and the fine entrenchment of *Cadbury*, 6 m. N.

4 m. S.E. is *Purse Caundle*, with a small Perp. church. On the N. is a mortuary chapel of the Longs. A canopy once covering the effigies of William Long, d. 1524, now shelters the altar-tomb of John Hoskyns and his wife, d. 1714, and several monumental brasses. The "ingenious" Dr. Nathanael Higmore, celebrated by Boyle for his searches in physiology, an eminent physician at Sherborne, d. 1685, lies buried here. N.W. of the church is a large ancient mansion, chiefly of the time of Elizabeth, absurdly misnamed "King John's House." The hall is entered by an arched porch. Half-way up a stone staircase leading to the upper floor is a well of never-failing water. Dr. Peter Mews, d. 1706, the military bishop who commanded the royal artillery at the battle of Sedgmoor, successively Bishop of Bath and Wells, and of Winchester, was born in this parish, 1618.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. *Poyntington Ch.* has a Norm. door, and the recumbent effigy of a knight of the Cheyney family.

A caricature of a Gothic apse of foreign design has been unfortunately added to the church, which has in other respects suffered much from restoration. There is a *Manor House* of late Tudor style, with a gate house forming one side of a quadrangular court, and remains of the hall and detached kitchen opposite. The *Parsonage* has four windows of early Perp., once lighting the hall.

Poyntington was in the 17th cent. the residence of Chief Justice Malet, who, for his loyalty to his royal

master, suffered severely in purse and person. He was thrown into the Tower, where he was kept till the Restoration. In June 1645 a sharp engagement took place here between the loyal country-folk and the Parliamentary soldiers of Sherborne. The battlefield is still marked by the graves of the slain.

4 m. N. on the W. declivity of the Corton Hills is the little secluded village of *Corton Denham*. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, and the curious oak seats, bearing date 1541, removed. Some of them are in Rimpton Church.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. is *Bishop's Caundle*, with a good small Perp. ch., well restored. The ch. of *Holwell*, formerly on an island of Somersetshire, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further S., stands very picturesquely on the bank of a branch of the little river Lidden. The N. aisle has a rich oak roof. Here is *Buckshaw House*.]

The rly. continues along the valley of the Yeo, or Ivel, and passes close to the noble ch. of *Bradford Abbas* l. which may be conveniently visited from Yeovil Junc. Stat. 1 m., or Yeovil Stat. 2 m. The village takes its name from the broad ford over the Yeo, and its distinctive appellation from the Abbot of Sherborne, to whom it was given by King Alfred, and who had a mansion at Wyke, about 1 m. E., the site of which is moated. There is a large stone barn, strongly buttressed, 90 ft. long. The house bears the date 1650. *Bradford Ch.* which has been carefully restored, is Perp. and well deserves notice. The tower is one of the finest in the county, about 90 ft. high, divided into 4 compartments, supported by graceful buttresses, lessening as they ascend, and surmounted with pinnacles. The W. front is richly decorated with 11 canopied niches, only 2 retaining mutilated statues. The chancel is poor, but there is a S. chapel with a pedimented doorway which deserves notice. A screen of Hamhill stone

divides the nave and chancel. The panelled roof is ornamented with red and white roses indicating the date. The woodwork is excellent. In the churchyard is a mutilated cross, of rich design.

This parish is united with that of *Clifton Maubank*, 1 m. W. The ch. has disappeared, together with the greater part of the mansion of the Horseys, of which this was the seat from the time of Rich. II., by marriage with the heiress of the Maubanks. The present house, of the end of the 15th cent., is only one wing of the original mansion. It has a rich open parapet along the front, and a good oriel window projecting from the end gable at a very unusual height, ornamented with the Tudor rose and the horses' heads of the Horseys. The front is divided by small turrets. The annexed buildings contain a loopholed stair turret, and some original fire-places, and a good panelled door. Inigo Jones designed a gateway for the mansion which, when the house was dismantled, was removed to Hinton St. George (Rte. 28). Some very rich panelled work was transported to Montacute House, where it forms an ornamental screen connecting the wings (Rte. 23).

122½ m. YEOVIL Junction and

124 Yeovil (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 13.

SOUTHAMPTON TO WEYMOUTH BY
WIMBORNE MINSTER, POOLE,
WAREHAM [CORFE CASTLE], AND
DORCHESTER [ABBOTSBURY].

(*London and South-Western Railway.*)

[For the rly. from Southampton to Ringwood, see *Handbook to Hants*, Rte. 23.]

4 m. from Ringwood Station the rly. crosses the Moors river, which divides the counties, and at *Westmoors Junction Stat.*, 30¼ m. from Southampton West, enters Dorsetshire, and crossing Hampreston Heath, one of the wild desolate tracts not wanting in many elements of the picturesque which characterize the S. E. part of the county, reaches at

34 m. l. Little Canford, in the rich valley of the Stour, and at

35¼ m. WIMBORNE Stat. (The town lies ¾ m. N. W. Omnibuses meet every train.) (*Inns*: Crown; King's Head; Railway Hotel. Pop. 5938.) The ancient town of Wimborne, the *Vindogladia* of the Roman itineraries, more famous in the early West-Saxon annals than in later times,—Leland writes, “it hath bene a very large thing and was in price in the tyme of the West Saxon kings,”—stands in a valley, the *Stour* flowing on the S. side of the town, and the *Allen* or *Win* to the E., joining the Stour a few yards above Canford Bridge. It is a clean, neat, and pleasant town. The Somerset and Dorset Rly. branches off here by Blandford to Temple Combe and Glastonbury, and joins the Great Western at Highbridge.

The *Minster*, which gives its name to the town, is a cruciform building, with a Transition-Norman tower of

red sandstone (from quarries near Ringwood) at the intersection, and a second tower of Perp. date (1448) at the W. end of the nave. These towers group most picturesquely from nearly every point of view, and give the church a majesty of outline hardly warranted by its size. The double use to which it was applied is indicated by its form. The central tower of the true minster type, and the western tower of ordinary parochial character, point at once to its twofold purpose as a collegiate and parish church. The structure is one of great singularity and beauty, and will repay a lengthened examination. It has suffered restoration, which, however commendable, has wiped out the charm of antiquity.

The history is soon told. It was founded as a nunnery by Cuthberga, sister of King Ina, c. 700. Alfred's elder brother Ethelred was buried here in 871. His son Ethelwald, the pretender, in 901 seized the town and shut himself up in it against his cousin Edward the Elder, who was encamped at Badbury. Hopeless of success, he fled in the night, leaving one of the nuns he had carried off and married, who was sent back to her convent. In 962 a certain King Sigeferth, possibly a Danish prisoner, killed himself, and was buried here. Secular canons took the place of the nuns before the Conquest: the change is attributed to Edward the Elder, c. 920. It continued a collegiate ch. till the Reformation. The Deanery was generally held in plurality by some bishop or distinguished nominee of the Crown. Among the deans were John Mansell, Chaplain to Hen. III., Kirkby, Bp. of Ely, 1286; Gilbert Keymer, Dean of Salisbury and Chancellor of Oxford, d. 1463; Oldham, Bp. of Exeter, a great favourite with the Lady Margaret, and Hornby her executor; and in 1517 Reginald Pole (afterwards cardinal and archbp.), then a lad of 17. The existing foundation of 3

priests, with a staff of singing men and choristers, dates from the time of Elizabeth.

The original Norman ch. consisted of a nave of 4 bays and a choir of 2, and transepts of only half the present projection. Of this remain the lantern arches, the piers of the nave, and the clerestory brought to light during the late repairs, together with the walls of the transept and choir. Both of these last have been extended. The singular cylindrical staircase turret, now projecting into the N. trans., stood originally at its N.W. angle.

The *Central Tower*, of Trans. Norman, later than the piers which support it, for which it is proving too heavy, was originally surmounted by a stone spire, which fell in 1600. It forms a very noble open lantern of 2 stories within. The pinnacles and battlements were added after the fall of the spire. The Western Tower, in building, 1448-1468, though well proportioned, is of a commonplace type, and has no elaborate workmanship.

The most striking part of the interior is the *Lantern*. "The small height of the ch.," says Mr. Petit, "which brings this lantern nearer to the eye, perhaps gives it a grandeur we do not equally recognise in loftier buildings. I do not know an interior more striking in its effect than this portion of Wimborne Minster." Above the lantern the squinches of the spire are still to be seen. The S. window of the trans. is very good Dec. The addition to the N. transept was known as Dean Brembre's chantry, or *Death's Aisle*, a figure of Death having been painted on the walls.

The *Nave* contains 3 pointed Trans. arches richly set with zigzag mouldings, set on earlier piers. The original clerestory may be traced above. The present clerestory is of square-headed Perp. windows; the small arch immediately W. of the tower

marks the site of the rood-loft, the choir having been, as was usual in Norman churches, under the lantern. Two late Dec. or Perp. bays complete the nave to the W. A lunar orrery at the W. end of the nave displays the moon's phases. A quarter-boy notes the lapse of time with his hammer and bell.

The *Choir* is raised on a vaulted crypt, constructed in the Dec. style, beneath the existing E.E. work (compare St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury). The walls of the two first bays are Norman, the eastern extension E. E. The eastern window (filled with rich glass from Italy, given by the Bankes family) is one of great singularity and beauty: "a good example of plate tracery, showing germs of tracery of the developed type. It is, I suppose, unique." *J. L. P.* The clerestory of the choir is modern. The S. chapel is known as the *Trinity Aisle*: the N. chapel as *St. George's Aisle*. The choir was fitted with screens and stalls of rich Jacobean work, erected in 1608, to replace those crushed by the fall of the spire. It is greatly to be deplored that in the late repair the supposed necessities of a parish ch. led to the removal of the gates at the W. end of the choir, and the lowering and reconstruction of the very interesting and almost unique examples of church fittings. The sedilia and piscina are very good. On the S. side of the choir is a fine altar-tomb with an effigy of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, grandson of John of Gaunt, d. 1444, and Margaret Beauchamp, his wife, erected by their daughter, the Lady Margaret Tudor, mother of Henry VII., who founded a chantry at the E. end of the S. aisle. Opposite is another altar-tomb to Gertrude, Marchioness of Exeter, d. 1556, mother of Edward Courtenay, last E. of Devonshire. In the pavement near the altar a monumental brass with a regal effigy is said to mark the burial-place of "St. Æthelred,

King of the West Saxons, A.D. 873," restored c. 1600. There is also a fine Jacobean monument, removed to the N. choir aisle, to Sir Edward Uvedale, d. 1606. In the same aisle is a mutilated effigy of a mailed knight. Note in the S. chancel aisle also the tomb of Anthony Ettrick, the magistrate who committed the Duke of Monmouth after his capture at Woodlands. Ettrick was buried in a slate coffin above ground, half-way through the S. wall of the aisle, having, so goes the tale, charged his heirs to bury him "neither in the church nor out of it." In the same aisle is the slab of Dean Berwick, d. 1312. On the S. wall within the W. Tower is a brass tablet to the memory of Matthew Prior the poet, "born at Eastbrook in this town, 1664; 'perennis et fragrans.'" Two daughters of Daniel Defoe, one of whom had married an exciseman here, lie buried in the centre of the N. aisle. The brass eagle bears date 1623. There is a chest hollowed out of a solid oak tree. A fine stone pulpit has been erected in the minster at the cost of Lord Alington.

To the S. is the *Vestry*, a groined room with sexpartite vaulting, above which is an ancient *Library*. The visitor will remark the iron rods to which the volumes were attached by the chains. Among other curious books there is a MS. of the 'Directorium Pastorale,' containing on the fly-leaf the date 1343; a very early example of the use of Arabic numerals. A copy of Raleigh's 'History of the World' has a hole burnt through the leaves from end to end, caused, so the popular tale goes, by a smouldering spark which fell on the volume while Matthew Prior, then a schoolboy of the place, was nodding over the volume by the light of a candle secretly smuggled in.

The total length of the ch. is 184 ft.; that of the transepts 107 ft. The width of the nave and aisles is 53 ft.; the height of the central and western

towers to the battlements is 80 ft. and 87 ft. respectively.

The *Grammar School*, founded by Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and re-established by Q. Elizabeth, occupies a handsome pile of Elizabethan buildings, erected 1851. The Rev. John Lewis, the historian of the Isle of Thanet and of Wicliff, and Matthew Prior, the poet, were scholars of this school.

[Wimborne is a good centre from which the tourist may visit *Canford Manor*, *Kingston Lacy*, the camp at *Badbury Rings*, *Charborough Park*, and *Monmouth's Ash*.

1 m. S. of Wimborne Stat., approached by pleasant green meadows by the side of the Stour, is

Canford Manor, the seat of Sir Ivor Bertie Guest (created Lord Wimborne, 1879) an Elizabethan mansion, built by Blore, in 1826–1836, for Lord de Mauley, and in part reconstructed by Sir C. Barry for Sir John Guest in 1848. It occupies the site of the mansions of the Longepées and Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, of which the kitchens, usually called John-of-Gaunts, but really of the 16th century, still stand, with 2 stupendous fireplaces and curious chimney shafts. The old house was chiefly pulled down in 1765, and the house then erected, that has given place to the present splendid structure, became in 1804 the residence of a society of Teresan nuns from Belgium. The tower entrance is remarkably striking, and the hall, with a timber roof, is lofty and well-proportioned. The dining-room and the whole of the S. front are by Blore, the remainder of the mansion by Sir Charles Barry. A gallery, connected with the house by a conservatory, contains some Assyrian sculptures brought from Nineveh, and presented to Sir J. Guest, by Sir A. H. Layard. The gardens are much admired, and beyond them are fir-woods intersected by drives which reach nearly to

Poole, which was at one time included in the manor. This manor, held by John of Gaunt, has peculiar privileges, extending over the river from Blandford to the sea, and giving right to a fishery, which is exercised once a-year, under the name of the “Royal Draft,” or “Hawl.” The *Ch.*, picturesquely draped with ivy, stands close to the hall, and though small, offers some interesting features. The original structure was Norm., of which examples may be seen in the chancel-windows, the nave-arcade, the N. and S. doorways, and the tower, which stands in an unusual position on the N. side of the chancel. The nave was prolonged, with a new W. front, and the porches rebuilt from Mr. Brandon’s designs, by Sir Ivor Guest (now Lord Wimborne), 1876–8. In a side chapel are monuments by *Bacon* to the Willetts of Merly.

Merly House, 1 m., was built 1752–60 by Ralph Willett, Esq., from a design of his own in the Vitruvian style. He decorated the Library, containing a well-chosen collection of books, with arabesques and frescoes illustrative of the rise of religion and literature, including the figures of Zoroaster, Confucius, Osiris, Manco Capac, Mahomet, and Moses, and “the venerable author of our own most excellent religion.” The interesting collection of pictures by Hogarth and others has been dispersed.

2 m. N.W. from Wimborne, on the upper road to Blandford, a road bounded by elms of remarkable size and beauty, is

Kingston Lacy, taking its name from its old lords the Lacys, Earls of Lincoln, seat of the Bankes family, one of the oldest (of commoners) in England. The house, once the residence of James Duke of Ormond, built by Sir Ralph Bankes 1663, and renovated by Barry, who added the tall dormers and chimneys,

is a stately mansion of stone, built by Webb from Inigo Jones' designs, with high sloping roof, broken by dormers. The interior exhibits lofty well-proportioned apartments, and a magnificent staircase of white marble, 30 ft. wide. The doors have marble frames. Here are preserved the keys and seal of Corfe Castle, so gallantly defended by Lady Banks; some beautiful vases, inlaid cabinets, and a small but choice gallery of Italian and Spanish *paintings*, collected with great discrimination and success by the late W. J. Banks, Esq. "The paintings of the English and Flemish schools have been long in the family—many of them ever since they were painted."—*Waagen*. The frames of some of the pictures are skilfully carved. No private collection in England has so many valuable pictures of the Spanish schools. In the rich and tastefully adorned SPANISH ROOM, having walls covered with gilt leather, and of which the ceiling, designed by *San-sovino*, came from the Contarini palace at Venice, the central compartment containing the apotheosis of a saint by *P. Veronese*, are, with compartments containing Cupids by *Pordenone*—*Velasquez*: Philip IV., a whole length, very fine; (2.) Philip's family, stiffly draped infants, in front a dog, in the background the painter (the original sketch of the celebrated "las Meninas" in the Madrid Gallery); (3.) Head of Cardinal Borgia, Archbishop of Seville:—*Spagnoletto*: St. Augustine:—*Murillo*: St. Augustine receiving inspiration from heaven: (2.) An angel holding cardinal's hat over his head, an admirable picture; a portion cut out of a larger picture, found in the knapsack of a dead French soldier in Spain: (3.) Sta. Rosa and the infant Saviour:—*Orrentes*: Moses and the Burning Bush: (2.) Samson and the lion:—*Zurbaran*: Sta. Justa, a whole-length, fine:—*Ribalta*: Virgin and Child with angels:—*Morales*: Christ scourged:

—*Espinosa*: portrait of Francisco Vives (with a dog), a whole length. In the SALOON—*Rubens*: two fine whole-length portraits of the Marchese Brigetta Spinola, as the bride of the Doge Doria, and Maria Grimaldi, brought from the Grimaldi Palace, Genoa:—(2.) *Rubens* and *Sneyders*: Cupids, Fruits, and Flowers:—*Vandyck*: Charles I.; Queen Henrietta Maria; Prince of Wales (afterwards Charles II.); Duke of York (afterwards James II.); Princess Mary (afterwards Princess of Orange); Princes Rupert and Maurice (?); Richard Weston, Earl of Portland. [The *Jansens* and *Vandycks* were rescued from Corfe Castle before its destruction]:—*Berghem*: a hilly landscape, "a stately picture":—*Raphael*: attributed by *Waagen* to Giulio Romano, Virgin and Child, with St. John; in the late manner of the artist; the picture bears the mark of King Charles I., and was brought from the Escorial:—*Titian*: (1.) *Omnia Vanitas*, Venus surrounded by jewellery; (2.) portrait of Marchese Savorgnano:—*Salvator Rosa*: Mr. Altham, cousin to Sir Ralph Banks, as a hermit in a desert (painted at Naples):—*Grenze*: a child reposing on its pillow; full of sweetness and innocence:—*Sir P. Lech*: a Magdalen. LIBRARY—Mrs. Middleton (a duplicate is at Hampton Court); Sir Ralph Banks; Lady Jenkinson; Lady Cullen; Mrs. Gilly; Mr. Stafford; Betterton, as Tamerlane (a drawing):—James, the great Duke of Ormond, who died at Kingston Lacy, 1688; Lord Chancellor Clarendon; and Sir John Banks, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas: *Diefenbeck*: St. Gregory; St. Jerome; St. Augustine; St. Ambrose. DINING-ROOM—*Guido*: a ceiling-picture of Dawn sending forth Day and Night; "colossal figures of great power of colour," very badly placed on an upright wall near the eye:—*Annibal Carracci*:—four mythological pieces:—*Tintoretto*: Apollo and the Muses:

Giorgione: the Judgment of Solomon, an unfinished sketch from the Marescalchi Palace, Bologna, "incomparably the most important of the whole collection" — *Waagen*. DRAWING-ROOM:—*Corn. Jansen*:—Ralph Hawtrey and his lady (parents of Lady Banks):—*Vandervelde*:—Sea pieces:—*Vandyck*:—Sir John and Lady Borlase:—*Lawrence*: Lady Falmouth:—*Reynolds*: Mrs. Woodley:—*Romney*: Mrs. Banks:—*Weigall*: Mrs. Banks:—*H. Bone*: A collection of enamel portraits, chiefly of members of the court of Q. Elizabeth. STAIRCASES:—*Sneyders*: Horse and Wolves; Bull and Dogs; taken at Madrid by Buonaparte. The house contains numerous works of art besides pictures, including wood carvings, marbles, bronzes, inlaid cabinets, and paintings in arabesque. The garden front of the houses faces a wide expanse of smooth shaven lawn, bordered with noble trees, receding in deep shadowy glades. At the extreme end of the lawn stands an Egyptian obelisk, transferred to this site from the island of Philæ, whence it was removed by Belzoni. Its base was laid by the Duke of Wellington in 1827.

Dr. Johnson visited Kingston in company with Reynolds, and astonished its master with his uncouth gestures. "The conversation turning on pictures, which he could not well see, he retired to a corner of the room, stretching out his right leg as far as he could before him, then bringing up his left leg, and stretching his right leg still further on. Mr. Banks observing him, went up to him, and in a very courteous manner assured him that though it was not a new house, the flooring was perfectly safe. The Doctor started from his reverie like a person awakened out of his sleep, but spoke not a word" (*Boswell*, p. 42).

1½ m. further on is the camp of *Badbury Rings*. This British earth-

work, planted with firs, and set as a crown upon the point of a naked hill, attracts the attention of a traveller approaching it from the W. The stronghold covers a space of about 18 acres, the diameter across the outermost ramparts being about 600 yards, and that of the central area about 300 yards. The principal entrance is to the W.; at this spot the second rampart is thrown forwards so as to form a flat, oblong bastion, about 80 yards in length. In each of its flanks is an opening leading into the outer area. There is a smaller entrance to the E., which is a mere gap in the ramparts, cut straight through. A third direct entrance cut through each bank and through the centre of the great bastion, has been supposed to have been cut by the Romans for the easy entrance of their legions and baggage. It is formed by 3 concentric rings or ramparts, each with its exterior ditch, from which they rise to the height of 30 or 40 feet, the outermost a mile in circumference, wide spaces intervening between the lines of fortification. It was rather a fortified city than a mere defensive stronghold. From the top the panoramic view embraces the Needles and cliffs of Alum Bay, the high land of Purbeck, the woods of Kingston Lacy and Charborough, and the glistening reaches of the Stour. This entrenchment stands on a Roman road which ran hither from Old Sarum, but it was originally a British work. It is identified by Dr. Guest with the famous "Mons Badonicus," the site of the great victory gained by the Britons under Arthur over Cerdic and the Anglo-Saxons, A.D. 520, by which the triumphant progress of the invaders westward received a serious check. After the death of Alfred the Great his son Edward the Elder encamped in it. Ethelwald the Pretender had seized Wimborne, but on Edward's approach he abandoned

it, and eventually joined the Danes in Northumbria.

Several other seats are situated at some distance round Wimborne:—to the W. 3 m. *Henbury House*, C. J. Parke, Esq.; 6 m. *Lytchet House*, W. R. Fryer, Esq.; 5 m. *Ensbury*, Capt. J. H. Austen; and

8 m. W. *Charborough Park*, Miss Drax (Rte. 19).

[To the N. 2 m. is *High Hall*, on the Allen; 3 m. *Uddens House*, Sir Edw. Greathed; and *Gaunt's House*, Sir Richard Glyn, Bart., supposed to have belonged to John of Gaunt; and *More Cricchel*, Lord Alington, a fine well-wooded place, formerly belonging to the Napiers, now to the Sturts, burnt 1742, rebuilt by Sir W. Napier, and greatly enlarged by Humphrey Sturt, occupied by George IV. when Regent in 1802; 6 m. the *Woodlands* estate, Earl of Shaftesbury, on which the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was captured, July, 1685. (Rte. 8.)

The circumstances attending the capture of the Duke of Monmouth are thus narrated. Having separated from his companions near Wood-yates inn, where they had been forced to abandon their horses, the Duke, disguised as a peasant, hastened towards the recesses of the New Forest. Pressed by his pursuers, he took refuge in some fields called the "Island," in the midst of a heath, in the parish of Horton. The soldiers soon arrived, and, being informed by a woman that she had seen a stranger lurking in the covert, they searched diligently till night-fall, but without success. The next morning, however, when on the point of departure, one of the troop espied the Duke in a ditch, half concealed by the fern. He was immediately seized and carried before a magistrate, one Anthony Ettricke of Holt. He was conveyed under a strong guard to Ringwood, and thence to London. The ash-tree

under which he was discovered still stands on the *Woodlands* estate, in a field called *Monmouth's Close*. At *Knolton* are the remains of two circular earthworks, possibly of a religious character. Within the smaller stands a ruined church.]

[*Horton*, 6 m. N.E., was a cell to Sherborne. *Horton Park*, once the seat of the Uvedales of More Cricchel, numbering many distinguished members, then of the Sturts, who purchased it 1697, and since 1793 the property of the Earls of Shaftesbury, is now occupied by a farmer. An abbey, afterwards a cell to Sherborne, was founded here by Ordgar Earl of Devon, father of Queen Elfrida, A.D. 961, mentioned by William of Malmesbury. It is supposed to have been where the church now stands. A singular find of earthen vases and Roman coins took place here in 1875. The *Ch.* is a quaint-looking structure, almost rebuilt 1720, but retaining some fragments of the earlier building, which appears to have been the priory church. There is a remarkably fine cross-legged effigy in Purbeck marble (Sir Giles de Braose) much resembling that of Longespée in Salisbury Cathedral, on a low altar-tomb, and an effigy of a lady of corresponding date, both sadly mutilated. In the vestry under the tower is the monument of the notable "Squire Hastings," d. 1650, aged 99, the son of George Earl of Huntingdon, the original of the well-known character drawn of him by Lord Shaftesbury, and inscribed beneath his portrait at St. Giles's. *Woodlands*, 1½ m., was his residence; now all pulled down except some portions of the stables and offices (see 'Hones' Everyday Book,' vol. ii. p. 1624).

1 m. S.W. of Horton is *Chalbury*, with its little *Ch.*, E.E. with Perp. additions, perched on the summit of a very high eminence, command-

ing an extensive view from the hills beyond Dorchester, W., to the Needles, E. *Uddens House* in this parish is the seat of Sir Edward Greathed, K.C.B., who with his brothers conferred signal services on this country in the Indian mutiny.

On an eminence S. of the village of Horton stands the "Observatory," or Tower built by Humphrey Sturt, Esq. It commands an extensive and beautiful view.]

[At *Little Hinton*, 3 m. N., the *Ch.* has been rebuilt, but the Norman chancel arch has been in part preserved, containing monuments of the Glyns of Gaunt. *Hinton Martel*, 2 m. farther to the N.E., had as rector the Rev. Charles Bridges, author of a Commentary on Psalm cxix. and the Book of Proverbs, &c. The *Ch.* is modern.]

To proceed on our route:—

From Wimborne Stat. the rly. runs due south, and leaving Canford Manor on the l. and Merly House on the rt., runs over broad black heathy hills, thinly scattered over with firs, crosses the Blackwater, and approaches by an abrupt curve the inlet of *Holes Bay*, *Lytchet Beacon* appearing conspicuously on the rt., to

39 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *New Poole Junction Stat.*, whence a branch runs to

43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Poole Stat.*, whence the line continues to

44 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Parkstone Stat.*, and

48 m. *Bournemouth Stat.* (*Hdbk. to Hampshire*).

Continuing the main route, we reach

42 m. *Hamworthy Junction Stat.* (formerly *Poole Junction*), where it throws off an arm across the triangular tongue of land dividing *Wareham Harbour*, W., and *Holes Bay*, E., on which is the village of *Hamworthy*, the *Ch.* of which, destroyed in

the Parliamentary wars, was rebuilt 1826, to

45 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Hamworthy Stat.* (formerly *Poole Stat.*), which, situated on the shore of Poole harbour, an extensive estuary, that has been scooped out by the sea in the yielding tertiary sands and clays, at a comparatively recent period, commands an uninterrupted view of this estuary and its beautiful islands, of the wide heaths which encompass them, and of the bold chalk range, which, enclosing S. Purbeck like a wall, has a deep cleft in its centre, in which are seen the ruins of Corfe Castle, standing like sentinels in a gateway.

[N. B. There are now two rly. stations: the *Hamworthy Stat.* is near the Quay; the *Poole Stat.* is at the upper part of the town.]

43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. POOLE (*Inns*: London Hotel; Antelope. Pop. of Parl. borough, 12,303.) Poole, a municipal and Parliamentary borough, returning one member, is an old town of red brick, reminding the traveller of such seaports as Sheerness and Portsmouth. It is an intricate cluster of houses, pierced by a High-street a mile in length, and terminated towards the water by capacious quays well lined with shipping. Poole is the principal seaport of the county. Its trade for a long period was chiefly with Newfoundland, and thence to the Mediterranean; but this declined immediately on the fall of Napoleon I., and is now nearly extinct. Its chief activity now is in the coasting trade: its imports being timber, grain, and coal, and its exports potters' clay—about 60,000 tons are sent annually to Staffordshire, London, Seville, Stockholm, and Dordt—and pitwood (fir), for Wales and the North, about 4000 tons annually. On the opening of the Somerset and Dorset Railway connecting Poole and Bristol, a steamer ran regularly to Cherbourg (now discontinued), which brought

in a considerable number of live stock, poultry, and eggs, and carried back some quantity of cotton, tin, and iron. Within the last few years potteries have sprung into active operation. At Saltern Lake, in Poole Harbour, is the S.W. pottery for drain-pipes; at Hamworthy, an architectural pottery; and one for sanitary pipes, &c., at the W. end of Branksea Island, all of which will well repay a visit. There are two iron foundries.

Poole was originally a member of the manor of Canford, and a portion of that parish. Its name does not appear in Anglo-Saxon or Norman times. The first notice of it is William Longespée's charter, long before which, however, it must have existed. By 1224, an embargo laid by Hen. III. on all vessels lying in the port of Poole, amongst others, proves that it was a place of considerable maritime resort. The town supplied 4 ships and 94 men to Ed. III. for the siege of Calais in 1347. It suffered fearfully in 1349 from the "black death," the victims of which were buried on the projecting slip of land known as "the Baiter." Leo von Rosenthal, brother-in-law of the King of Bohemia, embarked here on his return to Germany between 1645 and 1647. In 1483 the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., was off Poole with the idea of landing to raise the W. of England, but finding the shores too strongly guarded, made off again.

Poole was rising in importance in the time of Leland, who speaks of it as "of old tyme a poore fisshar village, in hominum memoria, much encreasid with fair building and use of marchaundise."

At the outbreak of the Civil Wars, Poole declared zealously for the Parliament, and proved a very troublesome neighbour to the adjacent country. In Aug. 1642 it was summoned in the King's name by the Marquis of Hertford, but the deter-

mined spirit of the townsmen forced him to retire. In 1643 the garrison, aided by that of Wareham, defeated Lord Inchiquin's Irish regiment, and 2 days afterwards carried off 3000*l*. that Prince Rupert was despatching to Weymouth.

The same year it had part in the unsuccessful attempt upon Corfe Castle (see *post*), as it had in its capture under Col. Bingham in 1646. In August, 1643, Prince Maurice determined to attack the town, but found its preparations too formidable to venture the enterprise. The next month the townsmen found means to decoy the Earl of Crawford who was left in command, and his men, under fire, to their grievous loss, the earl narrowly escaping with his life. In March, 1644, they had their share of disasters, when Sir Thos. Aston, having fallen on 120 of the Parliamentary horse, drove them with great loss into the very port of Poole, laughing at the cannon balls and bullets that were raining thick upon them from the walls. This disaster was retrieved the following October, when the governor attacked 100 of the Queen's horse, and took 40 prisoners with 2 colours.

One of the places of refuge of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester was, according to constant family tradition, at *Upton*, 2 m. W., formerly the seat of the Hileys.

After the Restoration, Poole had the honour of entertaining Charles II. during the time the court was at Salisbury to avoid the plague in 1665. Another royal visitor was Charles X. of France, who landed here Aug. 23, 1830, and passed on to Lulworth Castle.

From the position of this town on a labyrinth of creeks, it afforded convenient shelter in former times to a number of very questionable characters, who obtained a living from the sea by other modes than lawful commerce or fishing. Hence it acquired a considerable notoriety, and

became the subject of the following doggrel—

“If Poole was a fish-pool, and the men of Poole fish,
There'd be a pool for the devil, and fish for his dish.”

One of the most daring and successful of English buccaneers was *Harry Page* of Poole, or, as he was more commonly called, *Arripay*. His enterprises were principally directed against the coasts of France and Spain, where he committed great havoc. On one occasion he brought home 120 prizes from the coast of Brittany. He is said to have “scoured the channel of Flanders so powerfully that no ship could pass that way without being taken.” He ravaged the coast of Spain, burnt Gijon, and carried off the crucifix from Finisterre. At last, in 1406, an expedition was fitted out by the Kings of France and Spain against him, under the command of Pero Nino, Count of Buelna. It sailed along our southern shores, destroying as opportunity offered, until it reached Poole. Here it landed, and a battle ensued, in which the inhabitants, after a brave resistance, were worsted, and forced to retire, leaving the brother of Arripay among the slain. The enemy returned to the ships with some plunder and a few prisoners, and sailed towards Southampton.

The same dauntless spirit subsequently displayed itself in other romantic adventures. In 1694 Peter Jolliffe, captain of a small hoy, attacked a French privateer three times his strength which had captured an English fishing-boat off Weymouth, forced her to give up her prize, and drove her on shore near Lulworth. For this exploit he received a gold chain and medal from William III. The next year William Thompson, master of a fishing-boat, with only a man and a boy, got the better of a privateer of Cherbourg, with 16 men, which was preparing to attack him,

and brought her safely into Poole harbour, receiving also a gold chain and medal from the Lords of the Admiralty. Nov. 5, 1797, the brig “General Wolfe,” of Poole, having been taken by a French privateer, the mate, his man, and a boy, rose against their captors, overpowered them, and brought the brig into Cork harbour. The audacity and determination with which smuggling was carried on along this coast was such that it was with difficulty checked by the Government after a most desperate resistance, marked by some hideous atrocities. The task was rendered more difficult by the wideness of its ramifications, and the large number of respectable people who were involved in the illegal traffic.

Poole furnishes very little to interest the passing stranger.

The *Ch.*, originally a chapel of ease to Canford, a good building of its type, erected in 1820, contains a monument to Captain P. Jolliffe, the Poole hero. Among the incumbents was Thomas Hancock, a bold preacher of the doctrines of the Reformation in Edward VI.'s reign, whose autobiography has been published by the Camden Society in ‘Nichols’ Narratives of the Reformation.’ Among the natives of Poole we may notice the Rev. *John Lewis*, author of ‘The History of Thanet,’ &c., d. 1746, and Prof. *Thos. Bell*, the naturalist, born 1792. *William Knap*, the author of the well-known Psalm tune “Wareham,” d. 1768, was parish clerk of Poole. The celebrated congregationalist minister, J. Angell James of Birmingham, born at Blandford, was apprenticed to a draper here. The antiquary may be interested by an old gateway of the time of Richard III., and by the long low buttressed building at the quay called the *Town Cellar*, or *Wool-house*. In the *Town Library, Literary and Scientific Institute* there is a *Museum*, which contains among other thing a good collection of Purbeck fossils, and

some specimens of the rarer wild fowl shot in the harbour.

The *Guildhall* is a red-brick building with stone dressings erected in 1761, and contains a portrait of Charles II. in his robes of state.

Poole is situated in the neighbourhood of extensive heaths, and all the higher grounds command a prospect of great beauty, seen in perfection when the tide fills the numerous inlets. On the one side there is the sea, on the other the estuary, and beyond it the purple moors extending to the downs. The suburb of *Parkstone*, on the road to Bournemouth, is a very lovely spot, claiming a climate equal to Bournemouth. On the high levels and spurs of the hills many beautiful villas are erected. At *Springfield* (W. Pearce, Esq.) is a good collection of ancient and modern paintings.

[Several delightful excursions can be made, viz.—to *Brownsea Island*, *Corfe Castle*, *Creech Barrow*, the *Agglestone*, *Studland*, *Bindon Abbey*, and *Lulworth Castle*. *Bournemouth* and *Wimborne Minster* may also be visited, and the *Isle of Purbeck* (Rte. 17), by a walk round the coast, returning by rail from the Wool Stat. During the summer a steamer runs to Swanage and back, and several times a week to Bournemouth.

The harbour of Poole is a beautiful and capacious estuary, resembling at high water an inland lake, which branches in every direction into the heaths which surround it. It opens into a bay bounded at Studland N. by the bastion-like promontory called the *Nodes*. Beyond this point are the rocks called *Old Harry's Wife*, and *Old Harry*. Further round the Foreland is a headland perforated by a rugged archway called *Old Harry's Gate*, then the lofty cavern styled the *Parson's Barn*, and beyond, the insulated needle called the *Pinnacle Rock*. *Ballard Head* forms the N. horn of Swanage Bay; the oolitic

promontory of *Peveril Point* and *Durlston Head* the S. This interesting chalk range, together with Poole Bay and its islands, is best seen from the steamer which runs in summer between Poole and Swanage. The direction and narrowness of the mouth give rise to the phenomenon of 2 tides in the time commonly allotted to one. The retreating water runs against the ebb tide of the Channel; it is driven back and kept ponded in the estuary, until, by its accumulation and the abatement of the Channel current, it obtains an exit. But the rise and fall are very irregular, and even the sailors of the place can never predict with certainty the time of high water.

Brownsea or *Branksea Island* once belonged to Cerne Abbey, and was the abode of a hermit. It was long used as a deer-park by the families who formerly possessed it. Sombre fir-woods clothe its sides, and at its extreme point E. stands *Brownsea Castle*, first erected as a defence for the harbour in the reign of Hen. VIII., strongly fortified during that of Charles I. by the Parliament, but since occupied as a family residence, and now full of art treasures. A few years ago Brownsea Island was sold to Colonel Waugh, afterwards notorious for his connection with the "Royal British Bank," so disastrous to himself and others, who, after his purchase, found it to consist mainly of a deposit of potter's clay, in places 70 ft. deep, and in great part fit for use in Staffordshire. Pits were opened here to a large extent. Potteries, a pier, and a tramroad, were constructed; and a village and very ornate Dec. Gothic ch. built. Colonel Waugh also added 100 acres to the island by embankment, and made other improvements. After his defalcation, the estate was offered for sale by order of the Court of Chancery, and after being for some time in the hands of the mortgagees, was purchased by the Rt. Hon. G. A.

F. Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., who has done much to improve its natural beauty.

The little E.E. chapel of *Arne* (4 m. from Wareham) stands on a promontory running out into the mud-lands of the estuary, and terminating in a long narrow tongue of land known as *Patchins* or *Pagan's Point*. On the top of the hill is a barrow formerly used as a beacon commanding an extensive view.

Corfe Castle may be visited from Poole. The ruins stand $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Wyck Passage*, the usual landing-place; and 4 m. from *Ower Passage*. Ower was for a considerable period the principal port of the Isle of Purbeck, and the chief if not the only quay for the shipping of stone and marble.]

After leaving Hamworthy Junction Stat. the rly. crosses Lytchett Bay on a long timber viaduct; a little beyond which there is a fine view of the Purbeck Hills, with Corfe Castle crowning its mound in the gap. Near this is *Lytchett Heath*, an Elizabethan house built for Lord Eustace Cecil by D. Brandon. The rly. runs across a richly-tinted moorland, close to the shore of the bay, to

45½ m. WAREHAM Stat. Close to the stat. l. are the deserted works of the company formed for utilizing the Kimmeridge bituminous earths.

Wareham (*Inns*: Red Lion, Bear. Pop. of Parl. borough (including Corfe and Bere Regis) 6192; of urban sanitary district, 2112), a municipal and parliamentary borough, is a town of remote antiquity, in Saxon times one of the most important places in Dorsetshire, whose magnificent quadrangular earthworks stood the brunt of many a Danish invasion; it stands astride the ridge between the rivers Frome, S., and Piddle, N., just above their junction, and a short distance from where their united waters fall into Poole

Harbour, at Frome-mouth (a name occurring more than once in the A.-S. Chronicle), and forms the outpost and key of Purbeck, as Corfe does its citadel. War or Var, from which it derives its name, seems to have been the Celtic name of the river Frome.

It is a neat town, with spacious airy streets intersecting it in the direction of the cardinal points, and respectable-looking brick houses; but it is invested "with an atmosphere of dulness so powerful as to be oppressive," and, besides the earthworks and the church, offers little to detain the tourist. The area within the ramparts of about 100 acres, is "a world too wide" for the "shrunk" dimensions of the modern town, and much of it has been ever since Leland's time occupied by gardens.

S. of the town runs the *Frome*, the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, and navigable as far as this. It has a salmon-fishery, let on lease by the proprietors. Above the river stood the castle, the site of which is still pointed out as the *Castle Close*.

In Saxon times it was already a place of note, and it is said that Beohtric King of Wessex was buried here A.D. 800. During the period of the Danish invasions those piratical marauders continually landed at Wareham, and made it their headquarters. In 1015 Canute entered the Frome, and having ravaged Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts, and plundered Cerne Abbey, returned hither, and sailed thence to Brownsea. At the time of the Domesday Survey the unfortunate town was in very sunken fortunes, but it revived again under the rule of the Conqueror, who appointed 2 mint masters here, the same number it had in the time of Athelstan. The strength of its position brought much misery on the inhabitants during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. It was seized for the latter by Robert of

Gloucester in 1138. The next year Baldwin de Redvers, one of the Empress's warmest adherents, landed here and seized Corfe Castle. It was taken and burnt by Stephen in 1142 during the temporary absence of the Earl of Gloucester, who on his return with young Prince Henry, then a boy of 9, retook the town and castle, the latter after an obstinate defence of 3 weeks. In 1146, when Prince Henry was forced to leave the kingdom, he took ship here for Anjou. After this the poor town seems to have enjoyed a breathing time. John landed here in 1205, and again 11 years later. In 1213 Peter of Pomfret, the hermit, who had foretold the king's deposition, was brought out of his prison at Corfe, and after being dragged through the streets of the town, was hanged and quartered here.

During the Civil Wars of the 17th century it again became an object of contention between the two parties, being repeatedly taken and retaken after its first occupation for the Parliament in 1642. The townspeople were chiefly loyal to the Crown. Their "dreadful malignancy" was used as an argument by Sir Anth. Ashley Cooper for the complete destruction of the town, as it would certainly be occupied by the Royal forces on the first opportunity, unless it was "plucked down and made no town." The ruin averted then was accomplished 120 years later,—July 25, 1762,—when nearly the whole town was consumed by fire; but two years after it rose from its ashes "fairer than before."

There are some small remains of the *Priory*, a cell of the Norman Abbey of Lire, between St. Mary's Ch. and the river. The Castle Hill at the S.W. angle of the town above the Frome marks the site of the stronghold in which Robert de Belesme, Earl of Montgomery, one of the most zealous supporters of Duke Robert's claims, was im-

prisoned and starved to death by Hen. I., 1114.

The earthworks are of remote antiquity, and are probably of British construction, but were much altered and strengthened by the Parliament during the Civil Wars. On the W. side is the "Bloody Bank," so called from the execution of some of the insurgents in Monmouth's rebellion by order of Judge Jeffreys.

Wareham is said to have had 8 churches, 3 of which remain, though only 1 (St. Mary's) is used for its original purpose. *St. Martin's*, picturesquely covered with ivy, stands on the bank to the l. on entering the town. *Trinity Ch.* at the S. end is used as a school.

St. Mary's Ch., once collegiate, is worth examination. The body was rebuilt in 1841; the tower and chancel are remains of the former structure. The chief objects of interest are the very curious hexagonal leaden *font*, adorned with figures of the Apostles, of the 12th centy.; the double S.E. chapel, with its effigies; and the inscribed stones, supposed to belong to a ch. of primæval antiquity, built into the new walls. One of these last, at the E. end of the N. aisle, has been read "*Catug consecravit Deo.*" An Armorican bp. of that name was deputed by the prelates of Gaul, with Germanus, to visit Britain to withstand the Pelagian heresy, A.D. 430. The S.E. chapel deserves notice from the singularity of its construction. It is a low, vaulted room, with an E. window of 2 lights, piscina and aumbry, temp. Hen. III., and contains two cross-legged effigies, that to the S. probably that of Sir Wm. de Estoke, 1293, and a stone coffin. This is known as St. Edward's Chapel, and reproduces the little wooden chapel in which the body of Edward the Martyr was deposited after his murder at Corfe, in the same way as St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury has succeeded to the small wattled church. Above this

is a second chapel, entered by an E. E. door high up in the chancel wall, with a pointed window overlooking the high altar. A very remarkable small vaulted room, with piscina and sedilia, is formed within a massive buttress at the S.E. angle. At the outbreak of the Civil Wars Mr. Wm. Wake (grandfather of Abp. Wake), "an honest, merry, true-hearted parson; both a good scholar and a good soldier, and an excellent drum-beating parson," was rector here. For his hard treatment by the party in power see Walker's 'Sufferings of the Clergy.' There is also a monument to the *Rev. John Hutchins*, author of the elaborate county history of Dorset, formerly rector here.

[The following residences stand in the vicinity of Wareham: *Creech Grange*, Rev. Nath. Bond, below *Creech Barrow*; *Holme Priory* (N. Bond, Esq.); and *Encombe*, Lord Eldon, 7 m.; S.W. *Smedmore*, Col. G. P. Mansel, 8 m.; *Tyneham*, Rev. J. Bond, Esq., 6 m.; *Lulworth Castle*, S. J. Weld, Esq., 7 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 10 m.; *Bloxworth House*, H. P. Cambridge, Esq., 5 m.; *Lytchett House*, W. Fryer, Esq., 6½ m.; and *Charborough House*, Miss Drax. *Exacum filiforme*, or marsh centaury, a plant of some rarity, may be found on the surrounding heaths. About Stoborough and Arne the *Ericaciliaris* grows, almost to the exclusion of the more ordinary species of heath.]

[Wareham is the most convenient point for the tourist to diverge to visit Corfe Castle, Swanage, and the Isle of Purbeck (Rte. 17.) There is a daily omnibus from Wareham Station to Swanage, 10 m. Corfe Castle is distant 4 m. S. The road from Wareham runs direct over the desolate expanse of *Creech Heath*, formed of the lower Bagshot strata. Here *potter's-clay* is extracted from numerous pits, yielding annually thousands of tons, which are shipped to Staffordshire and Scotland, to Spain, France

and Holland, and other parts of the world. Clay which retains its white colour in burning is also largely raised for the manufacture of tobacco-pipes and stoneware. Above it is a bed of lignite, and veins of clay containing fossil leaves. The railway for the transit of this raw material to the water crosses the road (2 m. from Wareham), and leads on the rt. to one of the principal pits, which is about 60 ft. in depth, and provided with a steam-engine to raise the water and the clay.

Creech Barrow is a conical tertiary hill, almost volcanic in outline, towering over all the other heights, and formerly crowned by a lodge or lookout post for the keepers of the Purbeck Forest. The view from the summit is perhaps the finest for colour in the W. of England, its predominant feature being an expanse of heath, which stretches from the sea to Lulworth Castle, a distance of 10 m. In combination with this are the silvery surfaces of Poole Harbour and its numerous ramifications; a background swelling up to Salisbury Plain, which is visible on the horizon; the blue sea and promontories of Portland, W. and the Needles, E.; and the rounded masses and grassy flanks of the downs themselves, which, terminating abruptly W. at Worbarrow Bay, and E. at Studland Bay, so completely isolate a part of Purbeck from the rest of the county. At the foot of the hill lies *Creech Grange*, the Tudor mansion of the Bonds, formerly a possession of the abbot of Bindon. It was built in the reign of Henry VIII. by Sir Oliver Lawrence, and partially rebuilt in imitation of the original structure in 1846. Sir Thomas Bond, of the Creech Grange family, gave his name to Bond St., London, which he built, writes Evelyn, "to his great undoing." He was a confidential friend of James II., and left England with him. There is a small chapel at Creech Grange built from Nor-

man fragments of the Cluniac Priory of *East Holme*, a cell of Montacute. In the distant woods to the W. is *Inlworth Castle*, seat of the family of Weld.

Descending from this airy height, a walk of 2 m. E. along the crest of the ridge, 369 ft. above the sea, will bring the traveller to that convenient gap which forms the gateway of Purbeck, where, in mid entrance, set as a coronet on a knoll, are the beetling walls and rocklike towers of Corfe Castle.

CORFE CASTLE derives its name from the A.-S. *ceorfan*, to cut; its original designation, *Corvesgate*, not referring to the gate of the castle, to the erection of which it is long anterior, but to the singular cut or cleft in the line of steep chalk hills which forms the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, in the centre of which, on a minor eminence, the castle stands.

The earliest mention of Corfe is in connection with the murder of King Edward the Martyr, A.D. 978, "the foulest deed," as the A.-S. Chronicle designates it, "which was ever committed by the English since they came to Britain." No castle existed here then; but Elfrida, the Queen-Mother, had a "hospitium," or hunting lodge, on the site of the present edifice. According to the received tale, Edward had been hunting in the neighbouring forest, and, having lost his attendants, and being wearied, he stopped at Elfrida's lodge to obtain a draught of wine. Whilst raising the goblet to his lips he received the fatal stab, some say from Elfrida herself. His horse, alarmed at the noise, dashed away on the gallop, and dragged the unfortunate prince by the stirrup to the spot where he was found dead and mutilated by the persons sent in search of him. Elfrida, however, reaped little benefit from her cruelty. She at once removed to Bere Regis, where she had an estate "*sui juris*," says Bramton, to

avert the suspicion of having been privy to the deed, but she was haunted by the shadow of the murdered Edward, and died conscience-stricken at Wherwell; which, with Ambesbury, she had founded in expiation of her crime. The ill-fated king's corpse was removed to Wareham (see *ante*), whence it was translated still uncorrupt to Shaftesbury.

We have no mention of a castle at Corfe till after the Norman Conquest, nor does it appear by name in the Domesday Record. There was a strong castle here in the reign of Stephen, which was occupied by Baldwin de Redvers in behalf of the Empress Maud in 1139. De Redvers was besieged here by Stephen, who, failing to take the place either by force or hunger, and hearing that Maud and the Earl of Gloucester were on the eve of landing in England, hastily raised the siege. In the reign of Henry II., A.D. 1154, and in the following reigns, sums appear in the royal accounts for repairs. It was a favourite residence with John. He used it for the safe custody of his treasure of his regalia, and his prisoners. After the suppression of his nephew Arthur's attempt on the throne by the capture of Mirabel in Poitou, 24 of the 200 leading nobility and knights there taken and sent to England, were confined in Corfe Castle, where it is recorded all but two died of starvation. Here also were imprisoned Peter, the hermit of Pontefract (see *ante*, Wareham, p. 194), and a fairer and nobler victim, Eleanor "the Damsel of Brittany," Prince Arthur's sister, whose possible claims on the English crown procured for her a lifelong captivity. She was immured for several years at Corfe, having as companions two daughters of William, King of Scotland, sent as hostages for peace. In the succeeding reign she was removed to Bristol, where she died, after

a wearisome imprisonment of 40 years.

In the rebellion of Simon of Montfort this castle was held by the barons against Henry III. for five years. In 1326 it was for a short time the prison of Edward II., who was conveyed hence to Berkeley Castle, where he was murdered Sept. 21st. His keeper was Sir John Maltravers. The castle was visited in 1356 by Edward III., in preparation for which extensive repairs were made. Passing over a couple of uneventful centuries, it was granted by Edward VI. to his uncle, Protector Somerset, and Elizabeth sold it to Sir Christopher Hatton. It was again sold 1635 to Sir John Bankes, Lord Chief Justice, the ancestor of the present owners, the family of Bankes of Kingston Lacy. On the outbreak of the great civil war, Sir John Bankes having been summoned to the king at York, his lady and children retired to this place for security. They remained here unmolested until 1643, when the Parliamentary forces, having captured the towns on the coast, took advantage of a customary stag-hunt on May-day to despatch a body of horse to surprise the castle; but their plans were discovered in time to close the gates. The committee of Poole, thus foiled, next demanded the surrender of the cannon which the fortress contained, and sent a body of sailors to enforce it; but Lady Bankes, assisted by her daughters, serving-men and women, contrived to mount one of these rude pieces and to fire it against the enemy, who was thus put to flight. She then summoned assistance by beat of drum. But the castle was without provisions or ammunition, and to obtain them she had to beguile the authorities at Poole by the pretence of a surrender. Having completed her arrangements she despatched messengers to Prince Maurice, who had advanced to Blandford, urgently pressing for assistance,

when a Captain Lawrence was sent to take command. The Parliamentary forces soon made their appearance. Horse and foot, they took post on the adjoining heights, and cannonaded the castle, but with little effect. On the 26th of June they made their grand attack. They came streaming up the hill, under the command of Sir Walter Erle and others, to the number of 600, and, favoured by a mist, obtained possession of the town. From all quarters they opened their fire, and advanced against the castle under cover of two engines called the "Boar" and the "Sow," vociferating that they would grant no quarter. The garrison, however, were not to be intimidated; and they not only returned with interest the musketry and shouts, but sallied from their walls with great success. But an additional force was now at hand to assist the Republicans. A large band of sailors came with petards and grenadoes to join in the assault, and the fight was continued. Twenty pounds were offered to the first man who would scale the wall; strong liquors were distributed; and a brisk cannonade issued from the church, the leaden roof of which had been converted into balls. All rushed to the assault, carrying wild-fire in their hands, and ladders which they planted, but vainly strove to mount. On every side they were met by a shower of stones or hot embers. Their hopes waxed faint beneath this storm of missiles; the fumes of the wine evaporated, and they were at length compelled to abandon the enterprise, Aug. 4, 1643. The same night, an alarm being raised that the king's forces were approaching, the siege was raised by Sir W. Erle, who speedily withdrew to Poole. In 1646 Corfe Castle was again besieged by Col. Bingham, and this time with a different result. A gallant resistance was made, but the stronghold was captured through the treachery of Lieut.-Col. Pitman, one of the

officers of the garrison, who admitted a number of the enemy in disguise, Feb. 26, 1646. The Parliament had no sooner gained possession than it ordered the building to be destroyed, and accordingly the towers and walls were undermined and partly blown up by gunpowder. The keys and seal of the castle are still preserved at Kingston Lacy. (See *ante*, p. 186.)

Corfe Castle occupies an irregular triangle, the walls following the crest of the hill, which descends almost vertically on the E., W. and N. sides. It is almost encircled by two brooks, uniting just below St. Edward's Bridge to form the Corfe River; the rest of the peninsula between the Castle and the town being defended by a deep dry trench. The northern or highest point of the hill is occupied by the keep and principal buildings. The *Great Gateway* caps the southern or lowest angle. The *Buttavant Tower* the western. The *Queen's Hall*, or *tower*, rises near the eastern angle. The area of about $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres is divided into three wards,—the outer, by far the largest, the middle and inner ward. The architecture shows to a practised eye evidence of the three leading periods of its history, corresponding to the epoch of the Saxon "hospitium," the Norman castle, and Edwardian fortress.

The visitor approaches the ruin from the S. by a bridge of 4 arches, probably the work of Sir C. Hatton, thrown across the moat, and enters it through a gateway, grooved for portcullises, and with a remarkable cylindrical pipe with an opening in its side, originally formed for the working of a weight as the counterpoise of the drawbridge, on the principle of a modern sash-window, and flanked by 2 massive round towers pierced for arrows; erected, together with the greater part of the first ward, c. 1280. He then finds himself in the first ward, now a wide area of turf, enclosed by a line of

ruinous walls and towers, resembling rather a chain of rocks than a work of human hands. The S.W. front, to the l. of the gateway, is the longest, extending 270 yards. The curtain of the lower ward was strengthened on this side by 4 towers, now rent and shaken, huge fragments resting on the slope below. The S.E. curtain exhibits two semi-circular towers. The furthestmost is the *Plukenet Tower*, so called from a well-preserved shield, on the outer face, borne by two sculptured hands, showing the armorial bearings of Alan of Plukenet, constable of the castle in the reign of Henry III. A.D. 1269. Beyond this tower the walls have regular Norman ashlar up to the *Gloriette Bastion*, the site of the tower of the same name, built by Rich. II., which defended the S. E. angle of the inner ward. From the main entrance the ground rises rapidly to the gateway of the second ward, a very fine structure of Edward I.'s time, reached by a bridge over a fosse, where the force of the powder has produced a remarkable effect. The l. hand tower has been moved bodily down the hill, but, although 9 ft. below its original position, it is still upright. The archway shows 2 grooves for portcullises. The fosse by which the lower ward or bailey is traversed towards its upper part is about 20 feet deep, and is attributed to King John. Beyond this the ground rises precipitously into a rough cliff, on the edge of which rise the fragments of the keep and the curtain wall and towers, undermined and riven by the force of the powder, but still held together by the tenacity of the cement.

Passing through this second gateway, the curtain of the middle ward, strengthened by a semicircular tower in the centre of its length, runs to the octagonal *Butavant Tower* ("Bout avant," the projecting corner) which caps the western angle, and is a marked object in the outline of the

castle. A corbel, once supporting a roof timber, has been absurdly supposed to have served as "the gallows." The curtain between these two towers displays rude herring-bone work, with three plain round-headed windows and the place of a fourth, closed by the exterior casing of the wall in the reign of Henry III. This wall may possibly be a fragment of the Anglo-Saxon palace, the scene of Elfrida's treachery. The N. curtain of this ward also displays a half-round tower, as well as the seat and drain of a large garderobe under an arch in the wall.

Turning to the rt. we reach the entrance of the *Inner Ward*, where the gateway is almost totally destroyed, which occupied the summit of the hill, and included the Norman keep, the Queen's Tower, kitchen and other offices, and a well. The keep was a quadrangular tower of pure Norman work of the time of Henry I., with an annexe to the S., rising from the precipitous face of the lower ward which contained garderobes. The stair, 9 ft. broad, starting from the N. is built against the W. face of the tower. Each floor contained a chamber 42 ft. by 28 ft., dark and comfortless.

E. of the keep is the *Queen's Tower*, a work of the latter part of the reign of Henry III., containing the *Queen's Hall* and *Chapel*, constructed on vaulted crypts. Some of the pointed windows of the Hall remain. The tracery is gone. They have deep arched recesses, and stone side-seats. The *Chapel* runs across the Hall to the N. Two doors, excellent both in design and execution, opened at the head of a staircase into the Hall and Chapel. The former is perfect; of the latter only one jamb remains. One springer of the vaulting of the Chapel may be traced in the angle just within the doorway. A depression close to the east end of the Hall is said to mark the castle *Well*, which must have been of great

depth. At the S. E. angle beyond the Queen's Tower are the massive walls, 10 ft. thick, of another strong Tower, identified with that known as *La Gloriette*.

The destruction caused when the Castle was "sighted" by order of the Parliament 1646, the county being taxed to pay for it, probably exceeds anything of the kind known in England. Far more injury was perpetrated than was necessary for the object of making the castle untenable. The broken down walls of the keep are an astonishing spectacle, from the huge masses of the fragments, and the firmness of their cohesion. "They lie in the wildest confusion, and some considerable lumps have rolled down the slope, and, bounding across road and brook, rest half-buried in the turf beyond."

The visitor who wishes for fuller details should consult, for the general architectural history, the admirable essays of Mr. T. Bond and Mr. G. T. Clark in the 'Archæological Journal,' vol. xxii.; and for the siege 'The Story of Corfe Castle,' by the late Rt. Honourable G. Bankes. The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Edward the Martyr, is a well-designed and admirably proportioned edifice, rebuilt, with the exception of the plain Perpendicular tower, in 1860 (Wyatt, *arch.*). The Transition Norman pillars of the N. doorway, supporting a Decorated arch; the side lancets of the chancel aisles, and several of the windows belonged to the old fabric, but have been spoilt by being retooled. The W. doorway is flanked by niches.

The village of Corfe Castle (*Inns*: Ship, Talbot) consists of three long streets of picturesque stone-roofed houses diverging from a market-place, near the entrance of the Castle, where are the steps and platform of the Cross. It is chiefly inhabited by clay-cutters. On the l., below the market-place, are some picturesque remains of a house of the

Uvedales, with mullioned windows. *Dachombs*, on the E. side of the Swanage road, is an E-shaped gabled house containing some carved oak wainscoting. Just beyond it stands the *Museum* of the Purbeck Society, containing specimens of the natural history, geology, and antiquities of the district, which will repay a visit, though, like most local museums, it is not so well cared for as it might be. Corfe Castle formerly returned two representatives to Parliament, who were elected at the base of the old Market Cross. It is now united to Wareham and Bere Regis, the joint constituency returning one member.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. is *Church Knowle*, in which parish stands the very interesting Edwardian house of *Barneston*, preserving the name of Bern, the Saxon thane, who owned it in the Confessor's time. The earliest portions are at the back. There is a handsome double oriel; and an oak-roofed hall, now divided into rooms.

The once cruciform *Ch.* has been much modernised. The tower was rebuilt 1740. There is a canopied altar-tomb in the N. transept to John Clavell, 1572.

At *Kingston*, 2 m. S.W., there is a most sumptuous *Ch.*, erected at the sole cost of Lord Eldon from the late Mr. Street's designs (see Rte. 17).

Encombe, the seat of Lord Eldon, is 3 m. S. *Rempston House*, of the Calcrafts, 2 m. E. towards Studland. *Swanage* is 6 m., and *Studland* 5 m. distant (Rte. 17). The shortest route, and a most charming one, to *Lulworth Castle* is along the top of the downs, about 9 m. W. *Lulworth Cove* is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. further (Rte. 17). This range of downs is remarkably rich in barrows, cemeteries and earthworks.

A beautiful view of Corfe Castle is obtained from the road running up the hill towards Studland and the Agglestone. The walk along the summit of this ridge, over *Nine Barrow Down* (642 ft. high), is, in point

of scenery, one of the finest things in the county.]

[From Wareham a road leads over the heath to *Bere Regis*, 6 m. (Rte. 19). At $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. it intersects a row of 7 barrows. Beyond Stroud Bridge, 4 m. rt., is *Wolfsbarrow*, or *Oldbury*, an isolated conical hill crowned with a small but very conspicuous British earthwork, of great natural strength. $5\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is the remarkable earthwork of *Woodbury Hill* (Rte. 19).

From Wareham the rly. runs along the valley of the Frome, and at $53\frac{1}{2}$ m. passes close to *East Stoke Church*, rebuilt 1848, rt. and reaches

$50\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Wool Station*, where the traveller may halt to visit the ruins of *Bindon Abbey*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., and *Lulworth Castle*, 7 m. S. (Rte. 17). *Bere Regis* with its very fine *Ch.* (Rte. 19) is 5 m. N. by a fine heath drive, commanding grand views. At *Gal lows Hill*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., is an earthwork. At *Chamberlain's Bridge*, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m., the road crosses the river Puddle. The view from Wool Bridge, which is an ancient structure crossing the Frome by 5 arches, is very pleasing; it commands the woods and obelisk of Moreton. An old Manor House of the Turbervilles, now a farmhouse, stands close to the bridge on the l. bank of the river, where a barn on the rt. is raised on a basement of 14th-century work. *Wool Church* is chiefly E.E. and Perp. It contains a curious brown velvet pulpit-cloth embroidered with figures, probably made from a cope. *Hethfelton*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N., is the seat of the Fylers.

Bindon Abbey lies $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the stat., embowered in fine trees, among copious running streams which once fed the monks' fishponds. It was founded for Cistercians in 1172, by Roger of Newburgh and Matilda his wife. At the Dissolution it was granted to Thomas Lord Poynings, from whose heirs it descended to the Earl of Suffolk, by whom it was sold

Ng
to
Lee

to the Welds. The buildings have nearly disappeared, but the foundations remain, and the ground-plan of the church, cloisters, and appended buildings can be accurately traced, and conform to the usual Cistercian ground-plan. The style of the whole is Transitional, of the time of the foundation. The *Ch.* was of the usual Cistercian plan, with a long nave, transepts of two bays, with square chapels opening from them, and a very short eastern limb and a central tower. A fragment of the W. front is standing, with the jambs of the entrance doorways; the bases of several of the cylindrical columns of the nave may be seen, and one of the piers of the crossing; also the walls dividing the transeptal chapels and the bases of their altars, and the foundations of the stone western screen of the choir (which as usual projected into the nave), with two side altars. There is a double piscina in the N. transept. There are several empty stone coffins, and in the S. transept is a fine slab, robbed of its brasses, with a Lombardic inscription to Abbot Richard de Maners. To the S. of the *ch.* is the cloister court, surrounded with the usual buildings. The buildings on the E. side are the most perfect. We may distinguish the sacristy, chapter-house, containing monumental slabs, with traces of its vaulting, the slype leading to the cemetery, and the calefactory or monks' day-room, divided by a row of columns. We may also notice the vestiges of the staircase to the dormitory above. To the S. of the cloisters were the refectory and kitchens; at right angles to the cloisters to the W. the guest chambers and the lodgings of the *conversi*, lay brethren. A story goes that the 12 bells of the abbey were stolen by night, and are now in the churches of Wool, Combe, and Fordington, commemorated by the following doggerel—

"Wool streams and Combe wells,
Fordington cuckolds stole Birdon bells."

Crossing Moreton Heath, with a view N. of the range dividing the valleys of the Frome and Piddle, and S. of the Purbeck chalk hills, we arrive at

55½ m. *Moreton* Stat., standing lonely on the heath 2 m. from the village of that name. *Moreton House* (Mrs. Frampton) is a plain stone mansion. It contains some interesting portraits; Charles I. and Henrietta Maria; the ill-fated Henrietta, Duchess of Orleans; "Steenie," Duke of Buckingham; Lady Jane Grey; and Tregonwell Frampton (d. 1728), a celebrated "turftite," keeper of the royal race-horses at Newmarket to William III.; Anne, George I. and II. Built in 1744, Moreton has belonged to the Framptons at least from the reign of Edward III., 1365. An obelisk stands in the park in memory of James Frampton, 1786. The *Ch.* is a curious specimen of Batty-Langley Gothic, 1776, with an apse, and painted windows by Willement.

[*Woodsford Castle*, about 2 m. N.W., the archæologist must by no means omit to visit. It guards the passage of the Frome, but is more of a manor-house than a castle. The manor belonged to Guy de Brian, and afterwards to the Staffords. It is a long low parallelogram, with originally a sq. tower at each corner. The ground-floor is vaulted; the chief rooms are above, including the King's Hall, with an oratory with piscina attached; a solar, or Queen's room, with a squint into the chapel, guard-chamber, ante-chamber, and South Hall containing an ancient fireplace. The Beacon Tower at the N.E. corner is the only one of the four remaining perfect; it contains a good water-drain. The whole appears to have been built by Guy de Brian, temp. Ed. III. It was admirably restored by Henry Lord Ilchester. The *Ch.* is E.E. and has been nearly rebuilt.]

[*Affpuddle Heath*, with its singular

conical cavities, is 2 m. to N.W. of Moreton; and the interesting house of *Athelhampton*, in the valley of the Piddle, 1 m. further W. (Rte. 19.)]

[3 m. S. is *Winfrith*, a village lying under the chalk downs, with a *Ch.* partially rebuilt in 1852, retaining its Perp. tower, 2 Norm. doors, and E.E. chancel. Among its rectors have been Lindwood, the famous canonist, d. 1446, and James Atkins, Bp. of Moray and Galloway, d. 1687. A road leads over the downs to Lulworth Cove, 6 m. from Wool Stat.

3 m. S.W. of Winfrith is the village of *East Chaldon*. The *Ch.* (restored) has a plain Norman chancel arch, and other traces of the original building. There is an early circular font. On the ridge of the hill to the N. are 5 large barrows. 1 m. S.E. is a small earthwork known as the *Round Pound*.

2½ m. S. of Moreton Stat. at *Ower Moyne* (held by the Moynes by serjeanty of the kitchen) are the remains of an ancient house, with beautiful examples of the E.E. style, c. 1200. The most interesting portion is the hall on the first floor, with 3 fine 2-light windows. The *Ch.* has some ancient portions. The arcade is Tr. Norm. On the S. slope of the chalk downs is the figure of George III. on horseback, formed by the removal of the turf.

2½ m. further W. is *Warmwell*. The Manor House (Captain Foster) is of James I.'s time, but incorporates portions of an earlier mansion. The *Ch.* is chiefly E.E. and has a Norm. font.

1¼ m. S. is *Poewell*, with an old manor-house of the Hennings with the date 1634 on the porter's lodge, over the gateway, and a curious E. E. *Ch.*

½ m. N.W., on an elevated crest, are the remains of a stone circle, with indications of an outer circle and of avenues of approach. To reach this, leave the road at the

lime-kiln, ¼ m. nearer Weymouth. The circle is at the summit of the down on the l. by the hedge. It is about 12 ft. in diameter, and consists of 14 small stones. There are also remains of an outer ring (4 stones), and some traces of a line of stones running parallel with the hedge.]

57 m. the rly. passes rt. the ivied tower of *West Stafford Ch.*, rebuilt 1640, with a screen dividing the nave and chancel, and *Stafford House*, a picturesque gabled mansion of the 16th century, much altered c. 1720 (J. Floyer, Esq.), and reaches

59¾ m. **DORCHESTER** (*Inns*: King's Arms; Antelope. Pop. of Parl. borough, 7568). The county town, a municipal and Parliamentary borough returning one member. This is a rly. centre. Branch lines of the Gt. Western Rly. from Yeovil, and of the S.-W. from Southampton, meet here. There is rly. communication with Weymouth, S., and by branch from Maiden Newton with Bridport, W. The stations are in the open Fordington Field, S. of the town.

Dorchester is a thriving town, as an agricultural centre. The cloth manufacture which once was carried on here is now extinct; and its prosperity depends on its rank as the county town, and its position as the centre of a wide sheep-breeding and dairy country. About 750,000 sheep are fed on the adjacent downs, and the markets are well supplied with Dorsetshire skim-milk cheese and Dorset butter. The fame of the "Dorset Ale" is of long standing. A large and handsome brewery has been built near the S.-W. Rly. by Messrs. Pope, Eldridge & Co.

Dorchester is one of the lightest, cleanest and prettiest towns in the W. of England. Its reputation for healthiness is such that Dr. Arbuthnot, who in his early days came to

settle here, was driven away, saying that "a physician could neither live nor die at Dorchester." The town lies on a hill sloping on the N. to the valley of the Frome, and extending on the S. and W. to an open country, across which run the straight lines of the ancient roads still used as high-ways. It bears evidence of its Roman origin not only in its name, Dornwara-ceaster, the *castra* of the Dwrin people, who occupied this district before the arrival of the Romans; but also in the four streets, which, as is usual with towns of a Roman origin, intersect in the centre of the town; and in the earthworks, which, planted with fine rows of sycamore and chesnut, form beautiful *boulevards* nearly encircling the town—a feature unfortunately as uncommon in England as it is attractive. The foreign air thus given is increased by the avenues of trees that line some of the roads.

Dorchester was long prevented from extending its limits by being hemmed in on nearly all sides by *Fordington Field*, a wide open tract of ground of 3400 acres, held under the Duchy of Cornwall in farthings, or fourthings (the quarter of a hide or carrucate), from which it derives its name in its original form of *Fourthington*. The various holdings are known as a wholeplace, a halfplace, and a farthing. No one holds more than 80 acres, and that dispersedly. The town has much increased lately by the purchase of land outside the old boundaries, from the Duchy.

The junction of the 4 streets in the centre of the town is marked by *St. Peter's Ch.* with its fine pinnaced tower, and the modern Town Hall, with its angular spirelet. Walks on the rampart or in the fosse run round the W. and S. sides of the town. At the bottom of High St. a pleasant walk leads along the banks of the Frome, with green water-meadows to the rt.; from the extremity of it you may climb up into the town by the

new E.E. ch., and reach the W. walls, or continue over verdant meadows by *Frome-Whitfield House* (Colonel Henning)—to Charminster.

The chief objects of interest are the *Ch. of St. Peter*; the *Amphitheatre*; and the Camps of *Poundbury* and *Maiden Castle*.

Dorchester has unquestioned claims to antiquity. It was a British town before the invasion of Cæsar, and was long afterwards known by the Romanized form of its British name Dwrinwyr, as *Durnovaria*. The Romans made it one of their principal stations. They carried roads from it in different directions; and fortified it with walls, which remained in fragments as late as the year 1802, and of which a portion is still to be seen in Mrs. Stone's garden on the W. walk, a little to the l. of the W. gate. Under the Saxons its name, we have seen, became *Dornwara-ceaster*. The Danes are said to have besieged it in 1003, and burnt it to the ground, but the fact is very doubtful. Its mediæval annals are of little interest. John often visited it.

Several Roman Catholics suffered here in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., commencing with Thomas Pilchard, hanged, drawn and quartered in 1583. Four were executed the same day, July 4, 1594. The visitation of the plague the next year was deemed a judgment for these martyrdoms by the Roman Catholics. In 1613 upwards of 300 houses were burnt, and property amounting to 200,000*l.* was destroyed. Other serious conflagrations occurred in 1622, 1725, 1775. The last was got under by the dragoons of Sir John Cope's regiment; a detachment of which was quartered here. Lord Clarendon records that when the Great Rebellion broke out, a place more entirely disaffected to the king England had not. It was the magazine whence other places were supplied with principles of rebellion. Its deficiency in natural and arti-

ficial strength was supplied by the malignant spirit and obstinacy of its inhabitants, by whom it was early (1642) fortified against the king. But their courage failed on the approach of the Earl of Carnarvon in 1643, and the town with all its arms and ammunition was surrendered to him. After this the town lay open to the mercy of the victors, and paid dearly for its malignity, when Prince Maurice's troops moved hither. In July, 1644, Lord Inchiquin, who had marched hither from Wareham to occupy it for the king, was repulsed by Col. Sydenham, and in a few days the Earl of Essex took possession of the town for the Parliament. Cromwell was here with a large force March 29, 1645, which met with some rough handling from General Goring. Sept. 3, 1685, Judge Jeffreys opened his bloody assize. "The court was hung, by order of the chief justice, with scarlet; and this innovation seemed to the multitude to indicate a bloody purpose. More than 300 prisoners were to be tried. The work seemed heavy, but Jeffreys had a contrivance for making it light. He let it be understood that the only chance of obtaining pardon or respite was to plead guilty. 29 who put themselves on their country, and were convicted, were ordered to be tied up without delay. The remaining prisoners pleaded guilty by scores. 292 received sentence of death."—*Macaulay*. 13 were executed here Sept. 7. The formidable judge's chair is preserved in the Town Hall. He lodged in High West Street (Dufall's glass shop).

St. Peter's occupies a conspicuous position at the intersection of the 4 streets, and with its stately Perp. tower is one of the chief ornaments of the town. The S. door is Tr. Norm. with zigzag. The ch. is Perp. The arcade of the interior and chancel and tower arches are well proportioned. It contains several interest-

ing cross-legged effigies, sadly maltreated during the last repair in 1857: some being hoisted on to the windowsills and one banished behind the organ. They have not been identified, though they have been supposed to be Chidioks, removed from the priory. A rich Jacobean monument to Sir J. Williams, of Herringston, and his lady, 1628, has been awkwardly erected against the E. window of the N. aisle. At the opposite end of this aisle is an absurd effigy in full-botomed wig to Denzil Holles, who with Sir John Eliot and others forcibly held down in his chair Mr. Speaker Finch till the House had passed its famous Resolutions in 1639; one of the "five members" in 1642; the impeacher of Laud; the brother-in-law of Strafford; d. 1679. A brass with female effigy preserves the memory of "Johanna de Sto Omero, relicta Robt. More," d. 1436. The rood staircase remains, and gives access to a fine Jacobean pulpit.

All Saints, in High East Street, is a pleasing building, with a lofty spire erected by Ferrey in 1845. The glass in the E. window was a gift from Bp. Denison; that in the W. window is "in loving remembrance of Arthur H. D. Troyte, who fell asleep June 19, 1857." The ch. owes its erection chiefly to Mr. Troyte; much of the work was done by his own hands. Under the tower is an altar-tomb with effigy of Matthew Chubb, d. 1625.

Trinity Ch. in High West Street, rebuilt in the E.E. style by Ferrey, 1875, contains a monument to Dr. Cuming, a physician of the town, "who desired to be buried in the ch.-yard rather than in the ch., lest he who studied whilst living to promote the health of his fellow-citizens should prove detrimental to it when dead."

Fordington Ch., originally one of Trans.-Norm. style and cruciform plan, has been sadly mutilated, but still preserves features of peculiar interest. The church was restored

and greatly improved in 1863. The tower is a good one of the Somersetshire style. The tympanum of the Norman S. door retains a curious flat bas-relief of the Vision of St. George (to whom the ch. is dedicated, and who gives its name to the hundred) before the battle of Antioch. There is a small holy-water basin at the S. door, of very unusual form, shaped like a small Norman font. The pillars of the S. arcade are Norman, supporting Perp. arches. The stone pulpit bears the date 1592. Fordington is a stall in Salisbury Cathedral, once held by William of Wykeham and Archbp. Chicheley.

The County Gaol occupies the site of the *Castle* on a rising ground on the N. side of the town, above the river. Some small portions of the earthworks may still be traced. A tessellated pavement, 20 ft. sq., which, with other Roman antiquities, was discovered while digging a grave for a murderer, in 1858, has been relaid as an ornamental floor to the gaol chapel. *Priory Lane*, hard by, preserves the memory of a Franciscan Priory, reported by Speed to have been built out of the ruins of the castle by the Chidiocks.

The *County Hall* in High West St. is a plain stone building erected in 1745. The *Town Hall*, which stands conspicuously at the intersection of the 4 streets, is a pleasing building of red brick with spired tourelle, by Ferrey. It has an effective open timber roof, and contains Judge Jeffreys' chair.

The *County Museum*, a handsome building recently erected in High St., contains a good collection of local fossils, especially the fishes and testacea, &c., of Purbeck, which is unrivalled; and some unique fossils of the Kimmeridge series. It has also a fine archaeological collection, including British and Roman antiquities, coins found at Poundbury during the rly. works, urns, and other examples of early art from the Dorset tumuli,

&c. The *Grammar School* in South St. has a fine front.

The *County Hospital*, a good Jacobean building, by Ferrey, opened 1841, has a chapel built in memory of A. Dyke Troyte by his brother-in-law R. Williams, Esq., of Bridehead, in 1862. *Napper's Mite* is a small almshouse with a picturesque little cloister, and desecrated chapel, founded by Sir Robt. Napper, 1615.

The *Barracks* on the Bridport Road have an imposing towered gateway. At Charminster, 1 m. N.W., stands the *Dorset County School*, a brick and stone building with chapel and dining-hall. The County Lunatic Asylum is at *Forston*.

The *Amphitheatre*, called *Mambury*, or *Maumbury*, and first brought into notice by Sir Christopher Wren, when M.P. for Weymouth, lies to the S. of the town, 1. of the Weymouth road, in close vicinity to the 2 rly. stations. The line of the S.-W. Rly. as originally planned was carried through the amphitheatre; but it was rescued from mutilation chiefly through the zealous intervention of Mr. C. Warne, F.S.A. It has been generally considered a Roman work of the time of Agricola. It is, however, very different from the amphitheatres existing in Italy, whilst it closely resembles the British "rounds," of which there is a specimen in Cornwall. Whether British or Roman, it is equally interesting as the most perfect relic of the kind in this country. It is an oval or elliptical earthwork, formed by excavating the chalk and heaping it around to a height of 30 ft. The area thus enclosed is 218 ft. in length and 163 in width. The rampart rises from the ends towards the centre, where it attains its greatest elevation and breadth, and, according to a calculation by the antiquary Dr. Stukeley, would accommodate as many as 12,960 spectators. Its capabilities were tested in the year 1705, when the body of Mary Chan-

ning was burnt here after execution. 10,000 persons are said to have assembled on that occasion. Up to 1767 it was the place of execution of criminals.

From the walk on the W. rampart is seen the camp of *Poundbury*, cresting the head of a hill which rises from the river Frome, a few hundred yards, from the western gate. Camden and others think it was constructed by the Danes, on their supposed siege of Dorchester, under Sweyn. The late Rev. C. W. Bingham and others maintain that it is a Roman work. It is a tolerably regularly-shaped entrenchment, protected by a lofty vallum and ditch, double on the W. side. On the N. the steepness of the hill appears to have been the only defence. The summit commands an extensive view, in which *Maiden Castle* is seen to the S., and *Hardy's monument* to the S.W., and *Wolveton Hall* immediately below, E. The hill is pierced by the G. W. Railway.

[Excursions may be made to

(a) *Maiden Castle*, properly *Maidun*, "the Hill of Strength," one of the most stupendous British earthworks in existence, enclosing in its inner area about 45 acres, and covering full 115 acres altogether, rising in conspicuous grandeur to the rt. of the Weymouth Road, here coincident with the ancient *Ridgeway*, 2 m. S. of Dorchester. This hill-fort was the stronghold of the Durotriges, and may be identified with the *Dunium* of Ptolemy. It occupies the flat summit of a natural hill, entrenched and fortified by human labour. It measures about 1000 yards from E. to W. and 500 from N. to S. The whole is surrounded with two, in some places three, ramparts, 60 feet high, and of amazing steepness. There seem to have been 4 gates, the entrances being defended by the overlapping ends of the earthworks, and

additionally strengthened by outworks. The interior area is divided across the middle by a low bank and ditch. There are traces of a tank or pit to catch and retain water. According to the opinion of General Lefroy, the people who constructed it cannot have been acquainted with any tools like our modern spades with broad flat blades, but must have employed celts or narrow tools, by which only a small quantity of earth could be removed at a time. It could not be defended in the strict sense of the term, as it would take as many people to defend it as to make it. Other means besides earthworks must have been resorted to, to render the place tenable.

The view from Maiden Castle is very extensive, but bare and not very beautiful. The chief features are the Roman roads diverging from Dorchester, and the innumerable barrows that stud the hills. To the S.W. is Black Down with Hardy's Pillar.

Below Maiden Castle, E., to the l. of the Weymouth road, stands *Herringstone* (E. W. Williams, Esq.), a house of much interest, for many generations the seat of the Herring family, which late in the 16th centy. passed to that of Williams. The house, which has been much mutilated, was built by Sir John Williams, temp. James I. The drawing-room has a curious coved ceiling richly decorated with plaster bas-reliefs, among which may be noticed the initials C. P. and the heraldic insignia of Charles I. when Prince of Wales.

(b) $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W., in the valley of the Frome, is the very interesting house of *Wolveton* (Albert W. Banks, Esq.), rebuilt by the first Sir Thomas Trenchard, who incorporated portions of an older edifice. The south front remains entire, the eastern part showing the rich Tudor style of the time of Henry VII., the western portion the large-mullioned windows,

and semi-classic cornices of James I. added by Sir George Trenchard (d. 1630). The plaster ceilings and carved oak chimney-pieces and door cases are of great magnificence. The gatehouse has circular bastions and conical roofs. There is a good barn.

Wolveton is of historic interest as the scene of the foundation of the fortunes of the noble house of Bedford. Philip the Handsome, Archduke of Austria, having with his wife Joanna, the eldest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, and heiress of their dominions, been driven by stress of weather into the port of Weymouth, when on their way from the Low Countries to Spain, January 1502, they were hospitably received at Wolveton by Sir Thomas Trenchard. Unfortunately the old knight knew no Spanish and his royal guests no English. In his perplexity he bethought him of his young neighbour and kinsman, John Russel of Kingston Russel (see *post*), who had only recently returned from Spain, and sent for him to act as interpreter. It happened fortunately for Mr. Russel that he was gifted with the art of pleasing, for, having ingratiated himself with the royal visitors, he accompanied them to London, and was introduced to Henry VII. as a man of abilities, "fit to stand before princes, and not before meaner men." Thus established at court, he soon rose to high office, and in the reign of Henry VIII. was created Lord Russel, and at the Dissolution was enriched with the spoils of the religious houses. On the occasion of the marriage of Philip II., the grandson of his royal patron, with Mary I., he was sent to Spain to attend the royal bridegroom to England, 1544. He died the following year. On leaving Wolveton, Philip presented Sir Thomas Trenchard with two bowls of blue and white oriental porcelain, said to have been the first seen in England, which are carefully preserved as heirlooms, together with fine portraits of Philip

and Joan, by the Trenchard family at Greenhill House. One of the bowls is mounted in an original Italian silver-gilt setting, curiously hinged.

At the time of the Great Rebellion Wolveton was the seat of another Sir Thomas Trenchard, who played an active part in this county as a commander on the side of the Parliament.

From Wolveton the pedestrian may proceed

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Charminster*, whence he may return by pleasant meadows to Dorchester, 2 m. The *Ch.* has a very fine Perp. tower bearing on its buttresses the rebus of Sir T. Trenchard, c. 1500. The chancel arch and nave arcades are of Trans. Norm. In the S. aisle are three mutilated monuments of the Trenchard family. There is a curious earthwork at the extremity of the village on the rt. The traveller may with advantage continue his walk from Charminster along the barrow-studded hills of *Cerne Abbas*, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., whence he may strike over Sydling Hill to *Sydling St. Nicholas*, and mounting the down again descend on *Maiden Newton* Stat. (Rte. 15), 5 m., and return by rly. to Dorchester—a very agreeable and interesting circuit.

(c) Another circuit of much interest to the archæologist, and displaying wide and varied views, is through the fields to

1 m. *Stinsford*, where there is an interesting E. E. church, with a picturesque and highly enriched Perp. S. aisle, and N. aisle rebuilt 1630. On the W. face of the tower is a bas-relief of St. Michael. *Kingston House*, formerly the seat of the Pitts, now of J. Fellowes, Esq., is a classical house, built 1720, and refaced with stone in 1720.

Puddletown (see Rte. 19), 5 m., thence to Athelhampton, 1 m., and over the ridge into the valley of the Frome at *Woodsford Castle*, 3 m.; returning to Dorchester either on

foot 5 m., or by rly. from Moreton Stat.

(d) A longer expedition may be made to the heights of *Blackdown*, 789 ft. above the sea, and the *Hellstone*, the *Nine Stones*, and other prehistoric remains on the bare chalk downs about Little Bredy. Rte. 14.]

From Dorchester the traveller may pursue his way by rly. to Weymouth, 7 m., or, which is preferable, he may walk, enjoying the wide prospect of down and sea.

Pursuing the rly., the traveller has a fine view rt. of Maiden Castle, nestling on the S. slope of which is the little village of *Monkton*.

3 m. the rly. enters *Bincombe* tunnel, taking its name from a village S. of the hill, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. of the line. The small ancient *Ch.* has a circular Norm. font. The view from *Bincombe barrows* is one of the most extensive in the county. A large camp was formed here during the apprehensions of Napoleon's invasion, often visited by George III. when staying at Weymouth. Two young German deserters lie buried in the churchyard.

65 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Upwey* Stat.

In a cleft at the foot of the Downs is the very attractive little village of *Upwey*, the source of the little river *Wey*. The *Ch.* has been much modernised. The N. aisle is ancient, the S. aisle was added in 1838 and the clerestory in 1841. The N. arcade is good Perp., with the initials I. P., and A. B. in the foliage of the capitals. On the Downs above, 402 ft. above sea, runs the ancient *Ridgeway*, from which there is a noble view of Weymouth, Portland, and the neighbouring country.

5 m. rt. is the village of *Broadwey*, where the *Ch.* has a fine Norm. door, l. the camp-crowned hill of Chalbury.

The rly. skirts the *Backwater* which peninsulates Melcombe Regis, and reaches

69 m. WEYMOUTH Stat.

Weymouth (*Hotels*: Royal; Burdon; Victoria; Gloucester, formerly the residence of the Duke of Gloucester and then of George III.; Golden Lion; and Crown. Pop. of Parl. borough 13,704). This popular watering-place is very pleasantly situated. The coast here, turning to the S., forms a wide open bay, which is shaped in the form of the letter E., the projection in the centre dividing it into two parts—Weymouth Bay and Portland Roads. N. of this projecting point (called the *Nothe*) lies the old town of *Weymouth*, and connected with it by a swing bridge across the harbour, formerly the estuary of the little river *Wey*, from which it derives its name, is *Melcombe Regis*, the modern town, extending nearly a mile along the curving shore. In Leland's time the passage was "by a bote and a rope bent over the haven, so y^t in the fery bote they use no ores." Melcombe Regis is built on a narrow strip of land, with the sea on one side and an estuary (the *Backwater*) on the other, and commands in long perspective the coast to the E. as far as St. Aldhelm's Head. Its principal feature is the *Esplanade*, formerly the mixen or lay-stall of the town, distinguished by its length and symmetrical curve, on which stands a monumental statue of George III., erected by the townspeople in 1809, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the accession of their great patron. The Esplanade was nearly destroyed by the fearful storm of Nov. 23, 1824, when the sea-wall was completely demolished, and small vessels were driven into the centre of the town. At the extremity of the Esplanade a stone pier continued in wood runs out into the sea, affording an agreeable promenade. Behind the Royal Monument the two main streets, St. Thomas and St. Mary streets, run westwards to the Bridge and Harbour.

Weymouth is distinguished above many of our modern watering-places by the historic interest belonging to it. Athelstan granted Weymouth to Milton Abbey. In 1042 Edward the Confessor gave the manor to Winchester, on the traditional deliverance of his mother from the ordeal; a grant confirmed by Henry I. and II. In the reign of Edward I., as the town rose in importance, the monks lost the manor, which formed part of the dowry of Eleanor of Castile. Edward III. was driven in here by rough weather on his return from France in 1343. It supplied 20 ships for the siege of Calais, 1347, and was in return greatly harassed by the French, whose inroads impoverished the place. Leland says of Melcombe Regis: "This toune, as is evidently seene, hath beene far bigger than it now is. The cause of this is layd onto the Frenchmen that yn tymes of warre rasid this toune for lack of defence." To render it not worth the burning, Henry VI. transferred its privileges as a port and its woolstaple to Poole, a measure which deprived it of much of its former trade. Queen Margaret of Anjou landed here with her young son, April 17, 1471, the very day of the disastrous defeat at Barnet; on hearing of which she took refuge at the Abbey of Cerne. Jan. 10, 1505, the Archduke Philip with Joanna of Castile, on their voyage from Holland to Spain, were forced to take shelter here, to the great alarm of the inhabitants, who feared that the squadron came with hostile purpose. (See Wolveton House, p. 207.) In spite of its fallen fortunes, 6 ships were supplied by Weymouth to the squadron that met the Armada, and one of the Spanish ships taken was brought into this port. During the Great Rebellion it was alternately garrisoned by both parties, and became the scene of some fighting. In 1643 it was occupied by Lord Caernarvon and Prince Maurice, but

in 1644 it fell into the hands of the Parliamentary forces, who successfully defended it against an 18 days' siege by the Royalists. Coker writes in 1653: "Waymouth as now ytt is, is but little, consisting chiefly of one street which for a good space lyeth open to the S.E., and on the back of it riseth a hill of such steepness that they are forced to clymbe upp to their chappell by 80 steps of stone, from whence you have a faire prospect of the toune and haven lying under it. From one side you may see Wyke, and Melcombe on the other side, which much surpasseth the other for conveniency of site, for standing on a flat it affordeth roome for building, with a market-place and convenient streets and also yardes for their wares, by means whereof the merchants have chosen this for their habitation, which of late years is fairly new built. These townes now united gain well by traffique [into Newfoundland, where they had 80 shippes and barkes, as also by a nearer cut into France opposite to them, whence they return, laden with wines, cloths, and divers other useful commodities with which they furnish the country." As boroughs, the two divisions of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis were long at open war with each other. The narrow channel of their harbour was as jealously guarded by the contending factions as the boundary of rival kingdoms; and in the reign of Elizabeth, A.D. 1571, their animosity had reached to such a height that the Government interfered and compelled the inhabitants to coalesce and incorporate for municipal purposes, and from that time to the present day their interests have been one, as the united borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis. As parliamentary boroughs, however, the two towns continued distinct, each returning 2 members till the first Reform Act, which united them, giving 2 mem-

bers to the new constituency. Sir Christopher Wren, Sir James Thornhill, and Sir Fowell Buxton, have illustrated the parliamentary history of the borough.

The *tides* on the shore at Weymouth differ from those which prevail along the coast, the irregularity being most marked at the time of the "springs." According to the sailors there are 4 hrs. flood, 4 hrs. ebb, and 4 hrs. standing water, but this description is scarcely correct. There is generally a secondary tide—a slight flow and reflux—which takes place after the lowest ebb, and is popularly known by the name of the *Gulder*. Steamers in connection with the Great Western Railway ply between Weymouth and the Channel Islands, and sail daily to Cherbourg. During the summer, steamers run to Lulworth, Swanage, Bournemouth, and the Isle of Wight.

In the heart of the town, between St. Mary's Church and the Guildhall, are some old houses, with stone-mullioned windows and gabled dormers. At the corner of the Church Passage, to the W. of St. Mary's Church, is an interesting tall gabled house, with projecting storeys and bow windows resting on grotesque human figures, some playing on wind instruments. A cannon ball imbedded in the gable end of an old house below the Town Hall, at the corner of St. Edmund and St. Mary Streets, is a memorial of the siege by the Royalists in 1644.

There are no remains of the Dominican Priory, Leland's "fare house of Freres yn ye este parte of ye toune," founded by John Rogers and Hugh Deveril in the reign of Henry VI. It stood in Maiden Street, and its chapel served as the place of worship of the inhabitants, as a chapel-of-ease to Radipole, until the erection of the ch. in 1605. The present *Ch. of St. Mary's* (Melcombe Regis), built in 1817, is a solid but very ugly edifice of Portland stone,

galleried all round, with an altar-piece, "The Last Supper," by Sir James Thornhill (d. 1734), a native of the town, which he represented in Parliament.

Trinity Ch. (Weymouth), opposite the Bridge, built in the Gothic of the day, 1836, contains a good picture of the Crucifixion, of the school of Vandyck. At the back stood the old chapel of St. Nicholas, destroyed by Col. Sydenham's troops in the Civil Wars, reached by steep flights of steps from the High Street of Weymouth. The *Schools* on the steep ridge adjoining form a conspicuous feature in the view of Weymouth.

St. John's Radipole, at the northern extremity of the esplanade, built 1854 (Talbot Bury, *arch.*) in the Dec. style with a lofty tower and spire.

Christ Ch., opposite the Rly. Stat., has a tower with a low, square spire, which is rather effective.

The *Wesleyan Chapel*, near the Guildhall, is a successful adaptation of the Lombardic architecture of North Italy.

The *Congregational Chapel*, built in 1865, with 2 spires, is a conspicuous object.

The *Guildhall* near the Bridge, at the corner of St. Mary's Street and St. Edmund's Street, built 1837, has a Grecian Ionic portico, and contains a marble statue of the late Sam. Weston, Esq. (Theakstone), erected by subscription, and portraits of George III. (Beechy) and the Duke of Wellington (Weigall), presented by Sir J. H. Lethbridge. Above the Mayor's Chair is a good piece of oak carving of the royal arms, with the date 1577, brought from the former church of St. Mary.

The *Market House* in St. Mary Street (Talbot Bury, *arch.*, 1855) has a rusticated Italian front of some character.

The *Literary and Scientific Institution* is in St. Thomas Street. The building comprises a Reading Room, Library, and Lecture Hall.

The *Baths* form a handsome building below George III.'s statue, with an Ionic façade in St. Thomas Street. Nearly opposite is the Doric portico of the *Masonic Hall*.

Weymouth became of note as a bathing-place towards the middle of the 18th century. The first bathing-machine was constructed for Ralph Allen, of Bath, Fielding's "Squire Allworthy," in 1763. The Duke of Gloucester passed a winter here, and built Gloucester Lodge, and his recommendation induced George III. with Queen Charlotte and the Princesses to visit it in 1789. There is an amusing account of the discomfiture of the monarch when on his first plunge into the sea he heard the strains of "God save the King" strike up from an adjoining bathing-machine. The royal family became partial to Weymouth, and resorted to it for many years, occupying the present Gloucester Hotel. The Princess Charlotte was here in 1814 and 1815.

William Pitt and his elder brother, and his sister Hester, were residing at Weymouth with the Rev. E. Wilson when their father was called to the House of Lords. The "little William," then seven years old, expressed himself as "perfectly happy" in retaining his father's name. "I am glad," he said, "I am not the eldest son. I want to speak in the House of Commons like papa." (Stanhope's *Life of Pitt*, i. 3.)

The chief charm of Weymouth lies in its beautiful bay, and smooth and level shore. It is also the centre of a district of much geological interest, to which Mr. Damon's excellent work on 'The Geology of Weymouth and the Isle of Portland' will prove an admirable guide.

(a) The *Nothe*, the green promontory which rises from the mouth of the harbour, is reached in a few minutes from the Esplanade, either by the Swing-bridge or a boat. It commands a wide and beautiful view of Portland and the bay. It has been

converted into a battery fitted with Armstrong guns for the defence of the harbour and roadstead. The whole is cased in stone to obviate the frequent landslips. During the Rebellion the Nothe was fortified, with the object of "keeping in the Portlanders," as an old writer expresses it. From this point the visitor should ramble past the *Look Out* along the cliffs to

Sandsfoot Castle (1 m. from Weymouth by road), a picturesque ruin on the verge of the yellow rocks. Leland calls it "a right goodly and warlyke castle having one open barbican." It is, however, more attractive at a distance than on a nearer approach, and its architectural interest is but small. It was erected as a coast defence by Henry VIII., about the year 1539, at which time the country apprehended an invasion prompted by the Pope. The walls contain fragments of Norm. and E.E. architecture from Bindon Abbey, with the materials of which the castle was built. Its last governor, Humphrey Weld, was appointed in 1685.

Near Sandsfoot Castle commence the *Smallmouth Sands*, which extend to the long timber bridge over the *Fleet*, a distance of 1 m.

[From Sandsfoot it is a pleasant walk to *Wyke Regis*, 1¼ m. from Weymouth, of which it is the mother church. The road to it passes on the l. *Belfield House*, the seat of the late Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., who represented Weymouth for many years. Wyke Regis is seated on an eminence with a fine view of Portland and of *Deadman's Bay*, as sailors term the fatal West Bay. At Wyke there is a Romano-British cemetery, and Roman remains have been often discovered. The lofty square tower of the *Ch.* is a well-known sea-mark. The church is a good plain Perp. building. In the churchyard, among numberless graves of shipwrecked

sailors, is one which contains 140 of the passengers and crew of the "Alexander" East Indiaman, lost on the Chesil bank, March 26, 1815: only four Lascars escaped, as is recorded on a tablet on the West wall. Here is the monument to 17 officers and 215 soldiers bound for the West Indies, who perished in the fearful storm of Nov. 18, 1795, also the graves of eighty persons drowned in the wreck of the "Abergavenny," off Portland, in the winter of 1805. The captain was brother of Wordsworth, the poet. The fishermen assert that the timbers of the vessel may still be discerned through the water, and speak of the spot where she sank by the name of the ship, or, as they abbreviate it, "The Abbey." It is a favourite spot to fish for whiting.]

[(b) To *Radipole*, 2 m., the mother church of Melcombe Regis, a pretty walk along the shore of the *Back water*. This is a village embowered in trees, where the *Wey* joins the inlet. Radipole boasts of a sulphurous mineral spring and bathing establishment, about 1 m. from Weymouth. There is another mineral spring with Pump-room and Baths at *Nottingham*, 3 m. N., just before entering the village of Broadway.

On the hill overlooking the Backwater is a Romano-British cemetery of several acres in extent. The field behind the ch. produces many Roman and Romano-British remains, and in the bed of the Wey Roman pottery is often found.

Broadway Ch. has a fine Norman door.]

[(c) Another favourite expedition is to Preston, 3 m., and Osmington, 5 m. Leaving St. John's Church the road starts along the shore, and passing the race-ground, known as *Lodmoor Marsh*, climbs *Jordan Hill*, identified by some with the Roman station *Clavinium*, where are extensive

traces of Roman buildings with a plain but well-preserved tessellated pavement and a large cemetery, from which many hundreds of skeletons have been disinterred, with some beautiful specimens of Samian and other ware, and reaches *Preston*, where Roman pottery is of frequent occurrence in the churchyard. The *Ch.* is interesting, chiefly *Perp.* with a Norm. door and font. On a spur of the hill above is the circular entrenchment of *Chalbury* enclosing 2 large barrows, and numerous hut circles, from 18 to 20 ft. in diameter. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. at *Rimbury* was the necropolis, where numerous kistvaens and cinerary urns have been discovered. The camp follows the configuration of the hill, its defences being created by scarping the steep chalk slope and forming a ditch and bank. Its interior diameter is from 200 to 250 yards. "*Preston Valley* is a little gem; a verdant dell opening to the sea, through which a streamlet runs, with the sides and bottom covered with woods."—*Gosse*. At Preston is a bridge of great antiquity, considered by Mr. C. Warne to be of Roman date.

Beyond Preston the downs rise abruptly on the rt., and on one of their steepest slopes appears the colossal figure of George III. on horseback, formed by removing the turf from the chalk. It was the work of a private soldier, and must be regarded as a proof of considerable skill; for, being cut on an inclined surface, it had to be distorted to produce a true image. It is visible from the sea at a great distance. Along the crest of the ridge are a great number of barrows, arranged in groups.

Between Preston and Osmington are the remains of a rude stone circle.

At *Pokeswell*, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of the ch., the remains of a rude stone circle, 13 ft. 8 in. in diameter, may be traced on the top of a green

mound, surrounded by a shallow ditch. The stones are all small; the largest not more than 2 ft. 4 in. high. Four large stones to the W. may perhaps be the remains of an outer circle.

5 m. is *Osmington*, a pretty village, embowered in a woody valley, among lofty hills, with a *Ch.* dedicated to St. Osmund, partly rebuilt in 1845; it has a Perp. tower, Trans. chancel arch, and north arcade. The square Norm. font stands on a central pillar and four shafts surrounding it. It was once the property of the abbots of Milton. 1 m. to the l. is *Osmington Mill*, a coastguard station, a pretty spot, where a cascade tumbles to the shore; and further E., along the coast, near the hamlet of S. Holworth, the *Burning Cliff*, which, between the years 1824 and 1827, emitted clouds of heated vapour, and exhibited on a small scale the phenomena of a volcano. The effect was produced by the decomposition of the iron pyrites and bituminous shale of the Kimmeridge beds by a long-continued rain.

It is a pleasant row or sail to Osmington Mills across the bay.]

[(d) A walk round the *Isle of Portland* (Rte. 18), which can be accomplished in one day. The chief points of interest are—view of the Chesil Bank from Fortune's Well—Breakwater—Verne Fort—Quarries—Convict Prison—Bow and Arrow Castle—Pennsylvania Castle—Cave Hole, and Portland Bill. A steamer plies several times a day between Weymouth and the island, and a railway connects the two.]

[(e) To *Lulworth Cove* (Rte. 17), by excursion steamer during the summer months. The distance by road is 16 m., 9 m. by water.]

[(f) The most interesting excursion to be taken from Weymouth is that to *Abbotsbury*, 9 m. W., a village

famous for the ruins of its abbey, and for its Swannery and Decoys. The road thither is over a bare but well-cultivated country between the downs and the sea.

3 m. *West Chickerell*. On l. a lane leads in $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *East Fleet*, on the *Fleet Water*. This retired village suffered greatly in the memorable storm of November 23, 1824, when the church and nearly all the village were devastated by a tide of extraordinary height. In the chancel of the old *Ch.* are some late brasses of the De Mohuns. Near the old ch. is a Roman-British cemetery. A new ch. has been erected in a picturesque situation further inland, at the cost of the late rector, Rev. G. Gould. E. of it 1 m. is *Fleet House*, formerly the seat of the Rev. George Goodden.

7 m. *Portisham*, a village situated under bold furzy hills, from which a lively little rivulet runs to the sea. The *Ch.* has a tall and stately pinnaled tower, with conspicuous belfry turret. It has a chancel-door, font, window, and other portions of Norman date, and some E.E. windows and other details, panelled nave arcades, and a Jacobean pulpit. The ceiling is a panelled cove. Canute gave 7 hides of land in Portisham to his servant Ore, the founder of Abbotsbury. Here were born *Sir Andrew Ricard*, a notable East India merchant, d. 1672, and *Admiral Sir Thomas M. Hardy*, one of the most illustrious of Nelson's captains, to whose memory a column 70 ft. high has been erected on the adjacent height of *Black Down*, 817 ft. above the sea. The neighbouring downs exhibit many traces of rude stone circles and avenues, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the hamlet of *Gorwell* are the remains of a kistvaen, popularly known as the *Grey Mare and her Colts*. Five large stones lie on the slope of the barrow which once enclosed them, removed in the vain hope of discovering hid treasure. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.W. on *Tenant Hill* is a stone circle about 30 ft. in

diameter, of 18 stones, all prostrate, the largest being 8 ft. long. Outside the circle are several outlying stones. On the summit of *Ridge Hill* (rt. of the ascent to Winterbourn) are remains of a cromlech or kistvaen, the only considerable one in the county, called the

Helstone, which, according to the legend, was thrown by the Evil One to this spot from the isle of Portland. It consists of a ponderous oval slab about 8 ft. across and $27\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in circumference, of a very hard conglomerate, resting on nine upright supporters. Most of the supporters had been thrown down, and the capstone shelved to the S., but in 1869 the owner of the estate, Mr. Mansfield, had the whole carefully raised and readjusted by screw-jacks. The locality commands a good view of Hardy's pillar on Blackdown, to the l. of which is *Bridehead* (Rte. 14), the seat of R. Williams, Esq.; an ancient earthwork known as the *Old Warren*; and a stony valley called *Bride Bottom*, which may be compared with the Grey Wethers near Avebury.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Abbotsbury* (Inn: Ship). This village is very pleasantly situated in a vale about a mile from the sea, below picturesque hill-sides golden with furze; one of which is crowned by the ancient chapel or chantry of St. Catherine. It derives its name from its once celebrated Benedictine Abbey, founded, it is said, in the reign of King Canute, c. 1026, by Orc, one of his "house-carls," and his wife Thola, who bestowed on the abbey the manor of Tolpuddle; but there is a tradition of a ch. having been founded here in the early times of the British Church by one Bertulfus, and the name of *Abodesbyri* is said to have been given it by St. Peter, who, according to a legendary tale, appeared personally to consecrate the building. At the Dissolution the abbey was granted to Sir Giles Strangways.

The *Abbey ruins* are inconsiderable, though scattered over a large area. Some fragments of the great Gate House, which spanned the road to the S. of the church, still remain, together with an archway to the left leading into the inner court, an ivy-clad gable end, and a picturesque farmhouse and some cottages, preserving windows and buttresses and other relics of the Abbey domestic buildings. The most remarkable portion remaining is the noble *Barn* of the 15th cent., which for the excellence of its masonry, the beauty of its proportions, and the admirable execution of the decoration of its transeptal entrance, and gable ornaments, would put to shame many a modern church. An octagonal staircase turret adjacent to the great doorway is a very unusual feature. About one-third of its length is roofless. W. of the abbey, under Chapel Hill, are remains of the abbey terraced gardens and fishponds.

The *Church* is Perpendicular, with a good plain tower. There is a weather-worn figure of the Trinity in a niche over the W. door. The interior is plain but good. The light arcades run continuously from end to end, without the interruption of a chancel arch. The nave has a plain clerestory; the chancel is distinguished by a Jacobean plaster ceiling, with panels containing the arms of the Strangways and their alliances. The E. window is blocked up by a handsome but incongruous Corinthian altar-piece, erected 1751. The rood door and steps remain, together with a little old stained glass, and some good 17th cent. woodwork. The Jacobean pulpit is well carved, and in its bullet-holes bears the marks of a fray which occurred in the church at the time of the Great Rebellion, Nov. 8, 1644, when Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper assailed a Royalist party under Col. Strangways, who had taken refuge here. In the basement of the tower is the monumental

slab of one of the abbots, with his effigy bearing the pastoral staff.

The *Chapel of St. Catherine* stands conspicuously on the crown of a steep terraced hill overlooking the sea, S.W. of the village. It is a little building of much architectural interest, of Perp. date, 15 ft. in breadth by 45 in length, and of excellent workmanship. Though occupying so exposed a position, the masonry does not show a single crack, and bears few traces of decay. It is an admirable example of plain Perp. architecture, with well-proportioned windows of three lights in the east gable, and of two lights in that to the west and in the side walls. No timber enters into its construction, which is entirely of stone, ingeniously dovetailed together in the panelled and carved ceiling and roof. The walls are 4 ft. thick, and are supported by massive buttresses, which rise above the parapet in battlemented pinnacles. The stone roof is masked by lofty parapet walls pierced with arched openings. It has 2 arched entrances with external porches, and at the N.W. angle a look-out and beacon tower. The view is wide and beautiful, commanding a wide stretch of sea from the cliffs of Portland and its long Bill, to the E., to the hills overlooking Burton Bradstock and Bridport to the W. The Swannery lies at one's feet, protected by the long line of the Chesil bank from the violence of the waves, whose roar, even on a calm day, is distinctly audible at this height.

A very pretty lane overshadowed with elms, with the grey wall of the outer abbey precincts to the right, leads past the Abbot's Mill to the *Decoy* and *Swannery*, at the end of the Fleet, which form a scene of great interest, almost unique in England, not to be missed by the visitor (for a detailed account see *Good Words* for March, 1867). It is a place of oozy creeks and reedy pools, and still lakelets, all communicating

with the Fleet, across which rise the tawny pebble beach and a green warren alive with thousands of nimble white rabbits. It affords a home for an immense number of swans, 1400 of whom were reckoned in the autumn of 1878, and the number of nests in the spring of 1879 amounted to more than 360. There are two decoy pipes constructed for the capture of wild fowl, which are enticed into their mazes by tame ducks trained for the purpose. At the entrance a tall pole records the fearful storm of Nov. 23, 1824, when the water reached the height of 22 ft. 8 in. submerging the whole of the low land near the sea.

The *Chesil Bank* presents at Abbotsbury the same remarkable appearance as at Portland; but the pebbles, which at Chesilton were nearly 3 in. in diameter, have here decreased to the size of coarse gravel. The music of the sea has also changed, for there is more hissing in the sound. The bank is steeply sloped on both sides, and of immense bulk. To the rt. of the valley stands the *Castle*, a summer residence of the Earl of Ilchester, who has a considerable property here, including the Swannery. The gardens are very beautiful, and would repay inspection.

There is also an *intermittent spring* near the limekiln on the hill-side opposite the village; and, in the neighbourhood, *Hardy's monument*, and *Abbotsbury Camp*, 1½ m. W., a square earthwork enclosing 20 acres.]

ROUTE 14.

SALISBURY TO LYME REGIS, BY
BLANDFORD, PUDDLETOWN, DOR-
CHESTER, BRIDPORT [BEAMIN-
STER], AND CHARMOUTH.

Leaving Salisbury the road descends *Harnham Hill* and descends into the Vale of Chalk to Combe Bissett, $3\frac{1}{4}$ m. (Rte. 10).

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Bokerley Dyke* may be seen running in a serpentine line for 4 m. from E. to W. Crossing Crowden Down we reach *Vernditch Lodge*, a hunting lodge of the extensive *Vern-ditch Chase*, formerly a walk of *Cranborne Chase*. 2 m. N.E. is the village of *Martin*, with a small E.E. ch.

$9\frac{3}{4}$ m. the road enters Dorsetshire at *Woodyates Inn* (Wood gates, as being the entrance to *Cranborne Chase*). Near this spot the Duke of Monmouth, in his flight from Sedgemoor, was obliged to abandon his horse. He proceeded on foot towards the coast, but was overtaken and captured by his pursuers on the Woodlands estate near Horton (Rte. 13).

Here the highway falls in with the *Via Iceniana* or *Ikniel St.* from Old Sarum, running in a straight line towards *Badbury Rings*. Numerous tumuli are scattered over the downs. The wooded hills of *Cranborne Chase* are well seen on the rt. 1 m. on the l. the long straight line of the *Ackling Dyke*, or Roman road, may be traced across *Thorny Down*, running S. to *Gussage St. Michael*.

$14\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Cashmore Inn*, famous in coaching days. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. is *Gussage St. Andrew*, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. *Gussage St. Michael*, and *All Saints* (divided by the Roman road), little villages along the course of a streamlet, with small

ancient churches. That of *St. Michael's* has some Transition-Norm. portions, including the nave, arcade, tower, and font. In the churchyard is a magnificent yew-tree. That of *All Saints* is a good specimen of early Decorated. The windows of the nave have singular foliated rear arches. The font of Purbeck marble is Trans. Norm. The chancel has been rebuilt. *Gussage All Saints* lies embosomed between two beautiful hills, half hidden by luxuriant woods. The *Ch.*, restored 1865, deserves notice. The chancel was rebuilt, and the old chancel arch erected as an entrance to the organ chamber. The tower stands on the S. side, c. 1330. On *Gussage Cow Down*, 2 m. N., is the Roman Stat. *Vindogladia*.

Horton (Rte. 13) is 3 m. further S.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. is *More Crichel* (Lord Alington), a magnificent house and well-wooded demesne, rebuilt by Sir W. Napier after its destruction by fire in 1742, but very considerably enlarged and beautified by Mr. Humphrey Sturt. It was subsequently occupied by George IV. when Regent. In 1814 the Princess Charlotte was placed here under the care of the Dowager-Countess of Rosslyn and the Countess of Ilchester. The *Ch.* was rebuilt by the late Mr. H. C. Sturt in a very handsome manner, with a groined chancel. It contains monuments of the Cifre-wasts, formerly lords of *More Crichel*. $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. in *Cranborne Chase* is *Rushmore Lodge*, the seat of General Pitt Rivers, the house being in Wiltshire, but upwards of 30,000 acres of his estate are in Dorset.

About 1 m. W. of *Rushmore* is the picturesque little village of *Tollard Royal*, where was a royal hunting-seat, the successor of which still bears the name of "King John's House." 1 m. further the *Alarum Tree* still stands, where tradition says the keeper used to sound his horn for the commencement of the

chase. The *Ch.* contains the effigy of a knight in chain-armour.

17 m. *Tarrant Hinton.* The *Ch.* stands picturesquely on the hill slope N.W. of the village. The chancel and tower are Perp.; the arcade E.E. There is a Norman font, and on the N. side of the chancel a chapel opening into it by very curious Renaissance arches highly adorned with carving and colour, the work of Thomas Trotteswell, the Rector, 1515. An arch, bearing in a medallion, to the rt., the three women at the Sepulchre, and the inscription "Venite et videte locum ubi positus erat Dominus," is evidently an Easter sepulchre, a very late example of such an arrangement. Over the porch door of the rectory is an inscription, commemorating the builder, Thomas Trotteswell, alias Wever, Rector 1532.

1 m. rt. is *Eastbury Park* (Young's "Pierian Eastbury"), formerly the site of a mansion by Vanbrugh (see Campbell's *Vitruv. Brit.* vol. iii.), of great size and splendour, erected 1718 at a cost of 140,000*l.* by George Bubb Dodington. (Bubb Dodington, the son of an apothecary at Weymouth, and nephew of George Dodington, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, by address in electioneering gained political importance, and was created Lord Melcombe. He was a retainer of Frederick Prince of Wales.) The house was taken down and sold piecemeal, all but one wing, in 1795, by Earl Temple, who had previously offered an annuity of 200*l.* to any gentleman who would occupy it and keep it in repair. It is celebrated in verse by Thomson 'Autumn,' vv. 651-669) (who dedicated his 'Summer' to Dodington), Young, and Christopher Pitt, who writes:—

"Where with your Dodington retired you sit,
Charmed with his flowing Burgundy and wit:

Where a new Eden in the wild is found,
And all the seasons in a spot of ground."

Pitt to Young.

They, with Fielding, Bentley, and other literary men of the day, were frequent guests here. Voltaire was also a visitor at Eastbury:—

"On Dorset Downs where Milton's page
With Sin and Death provoked thy rage."
Young.

The estate is now the property of J. J. Farquharson, Esq. From 1806 to 1858 it was the seat of the famous "Eastbury Kennel," of which Mr. Farquharson was master, displaying "an equanimity of temper which was never ruffled, and an urbanity of manners and generosity of disposition seldom equalled, united with great punctuality and forbearance." Just outside Eastbury Park is *Tarrant Gunville*, with a *Ch.* entirely rebuilt 1845, with the exception of the pinnacled tower.

[From Tarrant Hinton the pedestrian may take a very pleasant walk down the valley of the little river Tarrant, an affluent of the Stour, with a pretty village called from the stream, and an ancient church, almost every mile, to Spetisbury Stat., and regain the route at Blandford by rly. He will come in succession to *Tarrant Monkton*, *Rushton*, *Keyneston*, and *Crawford*. Tarrant Monkton takes its second name from having belonged to Tewkesbury Abbey. The *ch.* is small and uninteresting. At Monkton Farm bronze torques and armillæ were dug up a few years since, now in the museum of Mr. Durden of Blandford. *Tarrant Rushton Ch.* is an interesting small cruciform building. The chancel is Norman; the N. transept E.E.; the rest Dec. The tympanum of the porch has a curious bas-relief: there is a low side window, and a squint filled with tracery. *Tarrant Keyneston* takes its name from the ancient family *De Caneto*, of which it was the seat. One of its members took Stephen prisoner at the battle of Lincoln. The *Ch.* was rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt in 1873. The very curious

"Ancren Rewle," containing rules for female anchorites, was drawn up for 3 young ladies of rank, who immured themselves here c. 1200.

Tarrant Crawford, with an E. E. *Ch.* of flint and stone, was the site of a Cistercian nunnery founded by Ralph de Caneto, temp. Rich. I., and re-endowed by Bishop Poore of Salisbury, 1217. The site of the monastic *ch.* is marked by rough ground, and a barn contains some remains of the old buildings. *Crawford Castle* is a circular earthwork. *Buzbury*, 1 m. N. on the downs, is a circular entrenchment, containing 7 or 8 acres, with a double ditch, commanding fine views N.E. and S.E., probably the site of a fortified British village. A network of trackways spreads over the adjacent downs, which are connected by branches with this stronghold. *Crawford Bridge* was repaired by 40 days' indulgences, A.D. 1506.]

Returning to the main route we reach

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Pimperne*, where was a curious maze cut in the turf on the down, "much used by the young people on holidiaies and by the schoole-boies," destroyed in 1730; now the site of the Blandford Cemetery. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1874, has a very rich Norm. S. door and cup-shaped font. The chancel arch has bold chevron mouldings and good capitals. There are remains of the sancte bell-cot. The porch of the parsonage, built like that of Tarrant Hinton by Thomas Trotteswell, 1430, deserves notice. The village cross still stands on the green. *Frampton*, Bp. of Gloucester, one of the suspended bishops, was b. at Hyde Farm, 1622. He steadfastly opposed James II.'s efforts to introduce Popery, but remained firm in his allegiance to him. He appealed to William III. in behalf of his lawful and injured sovereign, and received for answer, "I will take care of the church." After boldly preaching before him in James's favour at

Hampton Court, William remarked, "I perceive the Bp. of Gloucester don't expect a translation." Soon after this he was deprived. He took no part in the nonjuring schism.

Christopher Pitt (the poet), the translator of the 'Æneid' and Vida's 'Art of Poetry,' was rector here: d. 1748.

The road descends into the valley of the Stour, and reaches

22 m. *Blandford* (see Rte. 20).

The road rises from the valley over Charlton Down. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *Down House*, Sir Wm. Smith Marriott, Bart.

25 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. The road crosses the Belgic earthwork of *Combe's Ditch*. Two barrows face each other on opposite sides of the highway, like posts for sentinels. The dyke may be traced S.E. along the crest of the down to Great Colwood, where it descends into the Winterborne valley, and is lost there.

27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Winterborne Whitchurch*, where the road crosses a feeder of the Stour, which gives a name to this and many neighbouring parishes. The chancel of the *Ch.* is E.E., the tower is central and of Perp. date on Tr.-Norman piers. There is only a S. transept. The nave was rebuilt in 1841. The pulpit is ancient, c. 1450; the font a very curious architectural design of the same date. John Wesley, the grandfather of the founder of Methodism, was vicar here, 1658. He married a niece of Thos. Fuller, author of 'the Worthies.' He appears not to have been regularly ordained, and was much harassed after the Restoration, which led to his commencing a career of itinerant preaching in striking similarity to that of his grandson, whose father Samuel, the rector of Epworth, was born here. George Turberville the poet was born here c. 1540. On the l. is *Whatcombe House*, built 1750, J. C. Mansel Pleydell, Esq.

[Continuing up the stream we come to *Winterborne Clenston*, 2 m., once the seat of the De la Lyndes, and afterwards of the Mortons. A picturesque fragment of this manor-house remains. The hall, with a fine timber roof, has been divided into several rooms. The barn has a good roof of 6 bays. The *Ch.* is modern, with a spire (Basevi, *arch.* 1840), erected at the sole expense of the late Mrs. Michel of Whatcombe House, by whom the Church of *Winterbourne Houghton* was also rebuilt in 1861 (T. H. Wyatt, *arch.*). $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. further up the stream is *Winterborne Stickland*, with a poor *Church*, modernized in 1716. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further we come to *Turnworth*, where the *Ch.* has been rebuilt in a good style, preserving the old square tower, and some ancient features. *Turnworth House*, under the chalk downs, the seat of Mrs. Parry Okeden, is a modern Gothic building. On the hill above is a small Romano-British camp, and one of the most perfect examples of a British village in the county.]

$29\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Milborne St. Andrew's* is erroneously said to have been the birthplace of Card. Morton, Abp. of Canterbury, the deviser of "Morton's Fork," b. 1410, who was really born at Milborne Stileham, in the parish of Bere Regis. There are some remains of the manor house. The little *Ch.* has Norm. and E.E. portions, and contains a Norm. S. doorway and font.

2 m. N.W. of Milborne is *Dewlish*, where is the seat of the Michels, built 1702, near which a Roman pavement was discovered in 1740. The *Ch.* has good Norm. N. and S. doors. The N. aisle has Perp. arches with panelled soffits. It contains a memorial window to General John Michel, d. 1844.

1 m. l. is *Weatherbury Castle*, or, as it is called here, *Castle Rings*, a long rectangular British camp, with 2 ramparts and ditches containing

7 acres. An obelisk was erected in 1761 within the enclosure, which is now covered with fir-trees.

[2 m. S.E. of Milborne is *Bere Regis*, Rte. 19.]

[From Milborne a pretty lane runs up a vale to *Milton Abbey*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., the seat of Baron Hambro, known for its *Abbey Church*. From the park-gate, with its huge dogs supporting with raised paws armorial shields, the lane turns rt. to

Milton Abbas, 7 m. S.W. of Blandford; 11 m. N.E. of Dorchester. It was built 1786 by Joseph Damer, first Earl of Dorchester, to receive the inhabitants of the old village under the shadow of the abbey, which was pulled down on the erection of the present mansion. It consists of two rows of cottages, each cottage with high thatched roof, and in all respects similar to its neighbour, from which it is separated by an open space planted with a chesnut-tree. In the centre of one row is the almshouse, and in that of the other the church, built in debased Gothic 1786, with pinnaced tower, and a ~~fine~~ old font removed from the abbey.

Milton Abbey is seated in a hollow at the confluence of three deep valleys below swelling downs and woods, in a park which extends 3 m. from E. to W. It occupies the site of an abbey founded by Athelstan c. 933 for secular priests, who were made to give place to Benedictine monks in 964. At the Dissolution, it was given by Henry VIII. (for 1000*l.*) to Sir John Tregonwell, his proctor in the divorce from Queen Katharine. From the Tregonwells it passed by marriage to Sir Jacob Bancks, secretary to the Swedish Embassy (b. 1663), and then by purchase, in 1752, to Joseph Damer, afterwards Earl of Dorchester. With the exception of the hall, the whole of the monastic buildings were pulled

down in 1771, when the present house was built by the Earl of Dorchester, from the designs of Sir William Chambers. It is a large quadrangular mansion with a central court, and is constructed of white limestone, alternating with layers of flint. It is a curious example of its architect's notions of the Gothic style. The principal fronts face the N. and the W., and on the S. is the noble abbey church.

The only interesting part of the house is the *Monks' Hall*, or *Refectory*. The walls are hung with ancient weapons, and emblazoned with the arms of Athelstan and other patrons of the abbey. It is a stately apartment, with a roof of Irish oak, a much-admired screen of the same material (but painted white and gilded), and a sideboard, on which a stag-hunt is finely carved. Among its curiosities are also the antlers of an elk found in Tipperary; and the great bugle-horn used in the old deer-hunts. The date, 1498, and the rebus of Abbot Middleton (a mill and a tun) will be observed on the screen and cornice.

The *Abbey Church* is a truly noble specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, deserving to take high rank among the minsters of the land, but till recently, from its remote situation, almost unknown to architectural enquirers. It consists of the three eastern arms of a cross church, with a very richly pinnaced tower rising at the intersection of the transepts. Its outline recalls that of Merton College Chapel at Oxford; and there is every reason to believe that, as in that instance, the nave was never erected. The church, which existing fragments show had been erected with much elaborate ornament towards the end of the 12th century, was struck by lightning in 1309, and burnt down. The rebuilding was commenced in 1322, and was carried on gradually. The choir is the earliest part, and is also the

plainest. The S. transept was the next part built, of much finer work; followed by the N. transept, in which the Decorated of the other portions passes into Perpendicular, which style is fully developed in the elaborate tower. The nave was planned, but in all probability was never erected. The Lady-chapel has been destroyed. The best view of the ch. is that from the S.E., which displays the beautifully designed double flying buttresses, supporting the clearestory. The whole of the interior is vaulted in stone. The arrangement of the choir arcade is singular, having rather the effect of a wall pierced with arches than a continuous arcade. The design is heavy, and suffers from the want of a string-course above the arches, which is found in the transepts. The lantern arches are noble. The rich *altar-screen* (dated 1492), which was walled up for security but is now uncovered and restored in artificial stone, is an elaborate work, of the same character as those of Winchester and St. Albans, divided into niches with highly-decorated canopies. The carving of the stalls is good. *Two ancient paintings* are preserved in the ch. They are supposed to represent Athelstan, the founder of the abbey, and his queen, the former presenting a model of the church to a monk who is kneeling; the latter holding in her hand a hawk, which is devouring a small bird. They were painted for the place they occupy about the time of Edward IV. Notice, on the rt. of the altar, the 3 canopied sedilia; in the N. transept the marble effigy of Lady Milton, d. 1775, with her lord in his robes, bag-wig and sword, hanging over her in an agony of grief, grotesquely portrayed by *Carlini*; in the S. transept, the Jesse window by Pugin, and a curious wooden *Tabernacle* in the S. aisle, for receiving the sacramental elements after and before Mass: the

only example remaining in this country. On the wall, the rebus of the name Milton (a mill and a tun, or cask, with date 1218); and in the N. aisle, the marble monument of Sir John Tregonwell, 1565, who received the Abbey from Henry VIII. and favoured the old religion, but served every sovereign down to Elizabeth. A beautifully executed but inappropriate white marble font, by Jerichau, a pupil of Thorwaldsen's, has been given by Baron Hambro, by whom the whole building has been munificently restored under the direction of G. G. Scott.

The dimensions of the church are—length, 132 ft.; breadth, 61 ft.; transept, 107 ft.; tower, 101 ft. high.

On the hill to the E. of the abbey, reached by smoothly kept grass slopes, stands the chapel of *St. Catherine* in the early Norman style, with encaustic tiles paving the chancel, and a curious declaration of indulgence on the side of the S. door. This chapel has passed through various phases of desecration, having been at one time used as a dovecot, at another as a labourer's cottage. The E. and W. ends have been cruelly restored.

About 3 m. N.W. rises *Bulbarrow*, the loftiest chalk down on the range, 927 ft. above the sea. It is intersected by dykes of defence, &c., crowned by the camp of *Rawlsbury Rings*, a circular work of 7 or 8 acres, formed by double ramparts, and commanding very extensive views over the country. The ridge of *Bulbarrow* is traversed by an ancient trackway, at various points of which are remains of pit villages, and a small quadrangular enclosure, possibly British, in *Ibberton Park*. *Nettlecomb Toot*, 4 m. W., is another entrenched hill-fort of refuge.

Hilton, 1½ m. N.W., possesses a very attractive ivy-grown *Ch.* The tower is stately, and there are fine Perp. windows. The S. porch has a fan-tracery roof; a delicate little corbel

of ivy-leaves over the priests' door and a dole table deserve notice. The chancel contains whole-length figures of the Apostles painted on panel, brought from Milton Abbey. 1½ m. S.W. of Hilton, in a quiet recess, deep down among the round chalk hills, approached by avenues of stately trees, stands the fine old residence of *Bingham's Melcombe* (Col. Bingham), the seat of the Binghams without a break in the male succession since about 1250. It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Bingham*, "a brave soldier," says Fuller, "*fortis et felix* in all his undertakings." He was at the battles of Lepanto and St. Quentin, and has a monument in Westminster Abbey.

On entering the courtyard under the buttressed gatehouse, the terraced front of the Hall, with its oriel of remarkable projection, presents a very picturesque composition, in combination with a gable richly decorated with escutcheons and angular shafts. The windows of the little *Ch.*, a plain Dec. building, contain some good bits of glass from Milton Abbey.]

33 m. *Puddletown* (Rt. 19).

[From Puddletown the tourist should visit *Athelhampton Hall*, 1½ m. E., one of the best examples of Domestic architecture in the county (Rte. 19).]

33¾ m. a hamlet known as *Troy Town*.

34½ m. the road crosses *Yellowham Hill*, with deep ferny glades, and passing *Stinsford*, we enter

38 m. **DORCHESTER** (Rte. 13). The traveller leaves this town by the Roman *Via Iceniana*, or *Icknield Street*, now for ½ m. an avenue. On the rt. is *Poundbury*; on the l., in the distance, *Maiden Castle*.

"Now o'er true Roman road our horses sound
Grævius would kneel and kiss the sacred
ground."—*Gay*.

From the end of the avenue the road runs in a straight line up the longslope of *Bradford Down*, and from the summit, in 3 m., commands an extensive prospect. Heights and hollows are alike studded with barrows. Many may be counted on the crests of the distant hills ranging from Ridgway Hill to Blackdown. There are others on the low ground of Fordington Field, and several by the roadside, in the adjacent meadows. After a descent of $\frac{3}{4}$ m. we turn l., leaving the Roman road, which pursues a direct course towards Eggardon Hill. In front rises the dark height of *Black Down*, 817 ft. above the sea. It is crowned by an octagonal tower in memory of the gallant *Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy*, who was born in the village of Portisham to the S. of it. On the southern slope of the down is the cromlech known as *Helstone* (Rte. 13).

42 m. *Winterborne Steepleton*. The *Ch.* has an hexagonal spire, the only ancient stone spire in the county besides that at Iwerne minster. It has Norm. doorways and a Norm. font.

43 m. *Winterborne Abbas* (*Inn: Coach and Horses*), a rural village sunk among the chalk downs, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Weymouth. The *Ch.* has a fine tower, and remains of E. E. work; a Norman font, and a good piscina, c. 1320. Dr. Gilbert Ironside, Bishop of Bristol, d. 1671, was the son of Dr. Ralph Ironside, rector of this parish, whom he succeeded 1625. *Winterborne*, in common with other places of the name, is so called from a stream, peculiar to the chalk valleys, of which the fountains periodically well up, or "break," as it is termed, in the winter.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. beyond this village, l., is a stone circle, known as the *Nine Stones*, about 28 ft. in diameter. It stands on a bare spot, and there is a popular notion that trees will not grow within the circle. About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of this circle on the road towards Bridport is the *Broad Stone*, a large mono-

lith, 10 ft. by 5 ft., and 2 ft. thick, now prostrate. The stones are of a cherty conglomerate, and 8 in number, and one only appears to be wanting. The largest is 7 ft. in height by 4 ft. in width; the next in size $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by 6 ft.; the others are mere fragments little raised above the ground.

Climbing the downs we reach the entrance of *Bridehead* (R. Williams, Esq.), formerly the residence of the Mellers, which takes its name from a copious spring, which, issuing from the chalk, forms a beautiful lake, the head of the river *Bride*, which, flowing W., falls into the sea at Burton Bradstock. The E. E. *Ch.*, with tower and spire, was built in 1850, and is that of the parish of *Little Bredy*.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. another entrance to *Bridehead*, which is about 2 m. l. The road here quits the enclosed country for the open downs, on which it continues for some miles. Upwards of 20 barrows stud the adjoining slopes. Dr. Stukeley pronounced this locality "for sight of barrows not to be equalled in the world."

1 m. rt. *Kingston Russel*, an ancient mansion, now a farmhouse, with tall trees and a rookery—an oasis among the furze-covered hills. It was for 4 centuries the seat of the Russells, ancestors of the Duke of Bedford (see *ante*, Wolveton, Rte. 13.). On the summit to the l. are several barrows, and a bank and ditch running E.N.E. and W.S.W. Below the S. side of this hill lies the village of *Long Bredy*.

$46\frac{1}{4}$ m. *The Hut Inn* and *Long Bredy Gate* (540 ft. above the sea), on cross roads, where there is a pass through the downs. By the gate are 2 grassy tumuli, and the remains of a third, which helps to support the inn stable. The road now ascends to the summit of a lofty ridge, reaching a height of 702 feet, on which it continues for $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. To the l. is a delightful view of fertile valleys, of the hills by the

coast, and a fringe of blue sea. The earthworks of *Abbotsbury Castle*, and the height of *Puncknoll Knob*, with its sea-mark, are conspicuous.

48 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. Here the whole of western Dorset, and parts of Somerset and Devon, open on the traveller, who commences a descent of 2 m. On the rt. beyond an intervening valley stretches the long rolling down of

Eggardon Hill, crowned by a remarkable camp, resembling in its shape and the strength of its defences Maiden Castle, near Dorchester. On the N. and E. its entrenchments are double; on the W. triple; on the S. they cannot be accurately traced. The inner rampart is more than 50 ft. in height, and the oval area it encloses, of 20 acres, is studded with tumuli. The entrances are two in number, on the N.W. and S.E., and artfully made by overlapping banks. To that on the S.E. ran the Roman road direct from Dorchester. The hill stands in 3 parishes.

50 m. *Travellers' Rest* (253 ft. above the sea). 1. is *Shipton Beacon*, like a ship turned keel upwards, with an elliptical camp. It is irregular in form, with a single low rampart and ditch. Just S. of it is *Hammerdon Hill*, and to the N.W. are seen the singular twin heights of *Lewesdon* and *Pillesdon*, called by sailors the *Cow* and the *Calf*, the latter the highest hill in Dorsetshire, 934 ft. above the sea.

3 m. BRIDPORT (*Inns*: Bull; Greyhound. A municipal and parliamentary borough returning one member, Pop. 6790, taking its name from the river Bride or Bredy, which falls into the sea at Burton Freshwater, below the town). [Bridport is connected with the G. W. and S.-W. system by a branch line to Maiden Newton on the Dorchester and Yeovil line. A daily omnibus runs from Bridport, through Beaminster to the Crewkerne Stat. of the S.-W. Rly. to Exeter.] This is a large airy town,

surrounded by hills, and seated on a gentle eminence between 2 small streams, the *Brit*, W., and *Asker*, E., which unite below the town. The streets form a Y, two branches running from the E. and W. towards the centre, where stands the red-brick Town Hall, and a third running S. towards the harbour. The town is chiefly built of red brick, and has no architectural pretensions. The trade of the port lies chiefly in the importation of timber from Canada and Norway. There is considerable coasting trade. Bridport has long been celebrated for its manufacture of twine, rope, shoe-thread, &c., and in the reign of Henry VIII. supplied most of the cordage used in the royal navy. A quantity of hemp was formerly grown in the neighbourhood, and hence the local phrase for a man being hanged, "he was stabbed with a Bridport dagger." This was taken by Leland in a literal sense; "at Bridport," he says, "be made good daggers." There are *twine walks* at the backs of most of the houses, which are worth inspection.

The *Ch.* is a fine cruciform building with a central tower, chiefly Perp.; but the transepts are E. E., with Perp. windows inserted. The nave was lengthened by 2 bays in the general repair of 1860. In the N. transept is a beautiful cross-legged effigy of a mailed knight, supposed to be one of the Chidiocks. There is a fine modern stone pulpit. In the S. aisle is a mural brass to Edw. Coker of Mappowder, killed by one of the Duke of Monmouth's men, June 14, 1685. The *Town Hall* was built 1786 on the site of the Chapel of St. Andrew.

The antiquary will find some ancient houses worth a visit. The chief of these is a fine Tudor building of 2 stories, now used as a "working men's association," on the E. side of the S. street. On the opposite side of the street is a plainer building, known as Dungeness, now di-

lapidated, said to have been the house of the Prior of St. Leonard's. It has a newel staircase, and its interior arrangements are very interesting. Behind a house on the S. side of the E. bridge is the remnant of St. John's Hospital.

The *Quay* is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, where there is a double wooden pier of rather primitive appearance, each end being sharp like the prow of a vessel. The harbour thus formed, which will take vessels of 250 tons, is of consequence to Bridport, but useless as a place of refuge, the entrance being narrow and obstructed by sand. Around the inner basin are grouped some cottages and an *Inn*, the *George*. At this inn, on his escape from Charmouth, in 1651, Charles II. narrowly missed being discovered and seized, the ostler recognizing his face as one he had seen before. Escaping from Bridport he made his way to Broadwindsor, and thence to Salisbury. The coast is very beautiful, undulating towards the W. in irregular heights, including that striking eminence *Golden Cup Hill*. It also displays an excellent geological section, the strata, from their easterly dip, being exhibited in succession on the cliff. On *Golden Cap* the sands of the inferior oolite are seen resting on lias, which forms the body of the hill. On *Down Cliff* the blue stratum of lias is at a much lower level, and E. of the harbour it disappears altogether beneath the shore, being succeeded by the beds of yellow sand and marl belonging to the oolite. Again, beyond the mouth of the small river Bredy, the oolite is lost to view in its turn; the low *Burton Cliffs* being formed of fullers' earth, abounding in fibrous calcareous spar. At Bridport harbour we see the first commencement of the *Chesil Bank* begins, its materials passing gradually from fine sand to coarse shingle between this point and Portland.

Bridport has never been distin-
[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*, 1882.]

guished by any important event. It was occupied during the Civil War as quiet quarters by Royalists and Roundheads, but it was never contested by either party. Upon Monmouth landing at Lyme, it was surprised by his forces, and became the scene of some temporary confusion and riot. For this the inhabitants had to reckon with Judge Jeffreys, who hung up a dozen of their number in the market-place.

Bridport was the birthplace of Bp. Bridport, of Sarum, consecr. 1256, who, according to Leland, "kyverid the new cathedrall ch. of Saresbyri throughout with lead." It gave the title to Sir Alexander Hood, Baron Bridport, the famous admiral.

There is a pleasant walk over the hills, returning by the cliffs or along the shore to

[*Burton Bradstock*, 3 m. S.E. of Bridport, which takes its name in its original form, Brideton, from the river Bredy on which it stands, near its embouchure (a pretty spot). The manor was given by Henry I. to St. Stephen's, Caen, to redeem the regalia which the Conqueror at his death had bequeathed to that abbey. It at one time belonged to Bradenstock Priory in Wilts (Rte. 1). It was afterwards assigned to St. Stephen's Westminster, and remained the property of that college till the Dissolution. The *Ch.* is cruciform, mainly Perp., with a central tower supported on panelled arches.

Swyre, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., lying just below the conspicuous hill *Puncknoll Knob*, may be visited for the sake of its *intermittent spring*, at Berwick farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N., said to ebb and flow with the tide, and to have a briny savour. It is protected by a small thatched shed].

[6 m. N., deeply seated among the hills in the beautiful and fertile vale of the Birt, stands the market town of

BEAMINSTER (*Inn*: White Hart. Pop. 2614), a neat, well-looking place, owing its modern appearance to its frequent conflagrations. At the time of the Domesday Survey the manor belonged to the Bishop of Salisbury, and it was given by Bp. Osmund, 1091, to augment two of the prebends of his cathedral. On Palm Sunday, 1644, during the Civil War, when Prince Maurice was quartered here, it was fired in five places in consequence of a quarrel among the different forces, and nearly burnt to the ground. Sprigge passed through it the next year with Fairfax's army, and found it "the pitifullest spectacle that man can behold: hardly a house left not consumed." A large part was again burnt in 1684, and again in 1781. The *Ch.* (a chapel of ease to Netherbury) happily escaped these repeated fires, and is a very noble building, with rich memorial windows of stained glass. It is Perp. externally, with a stately square tower c. 1503 (on which the quarters of some of Monmouth's followers were exposed), ornamented with niches and sculptures of the B. Virgin and the Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, &c., on the W. face. The arcade of the nave, and a curious squint from the S. aisle into the chancel, are E. E. The chancel arch has some good paneling. It contains monuments of the Strodes, including a marble statue to Thos. Strobe, serjeant-at-law, d. 1698, and one with marble effigies and statues of fine workmanship to George Strobe and his wife, 1753. A curious building called "the Mort House" adjoins the ch., and has been laid open to it and seated. There is a Free school here, of which the Rev. S. Hood, the father of the naval heroes Lords Bridport and Hood, was master. Dr. Thos. Sprat, Bp. of Rochester, was born here, 1635.

Beaminster is in the centre of a district famous for the double Dorset

or mould cheese, and the surrounding hilly country is mostly laid out in dairy farms.

From Axe Knoll, a considerable eminence 2 m. N.E., flow the rivers Axe and Brit.

Corscombe, 3 m. N.E. of Beaminster, was given by Cuthred, king of the West Saxons, to Sherborne Abbey. The *Ch.* has a western embattled tower, and 3 canopied niches over the inner doorway of the porch. Here resided the once celebrated Thomas Hollis, "the patriot," the liberal benefactor of Harvard College in New England, d. 1774. He called the farms and fields of his estate by the names of the chief patriots and friends of liberty of history. His body was buried, according to his directions, in the middle of a field, without anything to mark the spot. Hollis is commemorated by Crowe in his "Lewesdon Hill."

"Fain would I view [thee, Corscombe; fain
would hail

The ground where Hollis lies; his choice
retreat,

Where from the busy world withdrawn he
lived

To generous virtue, and the holy love
Of liberty, a dedicated spirit,
And left his ashes there."

At *Toller Whelme* in the parish of Hook are remains of a grange of Ford Abbey. 1 m. E. is *West Chelborough*, where the little *Ch.*, rebuilt 1638, contains a very singular tub-shaped E. E. font. Chelborough Hill commands a very extensive view, embracing Alfred's Tower at Stourhead, Glastonbury Tor, and Castle Neroche.

At *Knolle*, 1 m. S.W., is a burial-ground set apart by James Daniel for the burial of his family and relations, chiefly Anabaptists, in memory of his preservation after the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth, whose cause he had espoused.

2 m. S.W., under Lewesdon Hill, *Stoke Abbot Ch.* has a rich Norman font. The tower was rebuilt after being struck by lightning, 1828, and the whole *Ch.* 1878. The Rev.

W. Crowe, the once well-known public orator of Oxford, author of 'Lewesdon Hill,' was rector here. Crowe's 'Lewesdon Hill' was much admired by Rogers, who says in his 'Table-talk,' "When travelling in Italy I made two authors my constant study for versification, Milton and Crowe."

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Beaminster, on the Bridport road, is *Parnham* (Lady Oglander,), formerly the seat of the Strodes, from whom it passed by marriage to the Oglanders in 1764. The house (which is occasionally shown) is a Tudor building at the end of an avenue of wide-branching elms. It contains a fine Hall, built by John Strobe, 1449, and altered by Nash, emblazoned with coats of arms, and a gallery of portraits, chiefly of the Strobe family. In the drawing-room are original portraits of Thomas, Lord Cromwell, and Gregory, his son. William Strobe, one of the five members in Charles I.'s time, was a cadet of this house. The *Birt* flows behind the house; and along its banks is a pretty walk to

Netherbury, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., one of the largest parishes in the county, abounding in rivulets. It is one of the prebends of Salisbury Cath. The *Ch.* is a stately Perp. edifice, with a square western tower, containing an alabaster monumental effigy in complete armour, with a collar of SS. round the neck, to one of the Moore family. There is a fine Jacobean pulpit. Charles II. halted here on his way to Salisbury, after the failure of his attempted escape from Charmouth. There is an ancient Manor House at *Strobe* (G. T. Gollop, Esq.), of the time of Elizabeth. The wainscoting of the dining parlour bears the arms of Gollop, with the date 1634. At *Melplash* is a *ch.*, built 1845, in the Norman style by James Bandinel, Esq. *Melplash Court*, now tenanted by a farmer, is a large ancient mansion bearing the arms and motto of the Paulets. There is a small domestic chapel at the back. At

Mapperton, 2 m. S.E. of Beaminster, is a Manor House of the time of Henry VIII. (Rev. P. M. Compton), with octagonal turrets and spiral pedestals surmounted with heraldic figures. The interior exhibits richly panelled ceilings emblazoned with armorial bearings. The *Ch.* was rebuilt c. 1700, and restored in 1846. N.W. rises a conical hill called *Chart Knoll*.

Broadwindsor, 3 m. N.W. of Beaminster, was the rectory of that quaint old writer *Thomas Fuller*, who there finished his 'History of the Holy Warre,' and prepared his 'Pisgah Sight.' He was presented to it 1634, by his uncle, Bp. Davenant, and ousted at the Rebellion; but he returned to it at the Restoration, and held it until his death in 1661. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1868 at the cost of Major Charles H. Malan, son of the vicar, the Rev. S. C. Malan, the celebrated Oriental scholar. The original design was followed, and all the most interesting ancient features were preserved. The N. aisle is E. E., the S. aisle Norm., as is also the font. The Jacobean pulpit is that used by Fuller. The parish, which is the third largest in the diocese, containing 6666 acres, 7 m. by 6 m., lies chiefly in a rich vale of meadows and orchards watered by innumerable brooks, and bounded by bold hills. The chief of these are the twin heights of

Lewesdon Hill and *Pillesdon Pen* (this latter remarkable for the peaked form of its southern extremity), two conspicuous eminences of greensand, remarkable for their likeness to one another when viewed from certain points, about 3 m. W. of Beaminster. Sailors, whom they serve as a landmark, call them the *Cow* and the *Calf*; and the two hills together have given rise to a proverbial saying current in this county, and applied to neighbours who are not acquainted—

"as much akin
As Lew'son Hill to Pillson Pen."

These hills are the highest in the county, Lewesdon 960 ft. above the sea, Pillesdon 940 ft. and command a charming prospect. Pillesdon, a lofty table-land overlooking the county for miles,

"that rival height south-west,
Which like a rampire bounds the vale beneath,"—*Crowe*.

is further interesting for an ancient camp, of oval form, encompassed by three strong ramparts and ditches.

Wordsworth and his sister settled at *Racedown Lodge*, on the N.W. slope of Pillesdon, in the autumn of 1795, in a house belonging to Mr. Pinney, of Bristol, a friend of Basil Montague's. The place was very retired, with little or no society, and a post but once a week. Miss W. describes it as "the place dearest to my recollections upon the whole surface of the island; the first home I had;" and speaks with rapture of the lovely meadows above the tops of the combes, and the scenery on Pillesdon, Lewesdon, and Blackdon Hill, and the view of the sea from Lambert's Castle. Here Wordsworth wrote 'The Borderers,' and in June, 1797, received his first visit from Coleridge, which led to their removal to Alfoxden.

Pillesdon, 5 m. W. of Beaminster, was the birthplace of Sir John Hody, Chief Justice of King's Bench, 1440, temp. Hen. VI., whom a false tradition asserts to have passed sentence of death for a capital crime on his own son, who could not have been 7 years old at his father's death. Of the same family were Lord Chief Baron Hody, dec. 1524, and Humphrey Hody, the learned divine, d. 1706. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1830, contains a good piscina, and a stoop in the porch.

Bettiscombe, a beautiful little ch. built in 1862 by J. Tatchell-Bullen, Esq., of Marshwood Manor, is a conspicuous object on the E. side of the vale. It contains memorials of the Pinneys.]

The drive from Bridport to Lyme

(8 m.) is very attractive, up and down a series of long and steep hills, succeeding one another like waves, and commanding very varied prospects, with every now and then a peep of the blue sea to the l. through gaps in the downs. It is pronounced by Madame D'Arblay to be "the most beautiful to which my wandering feet have sent me; diversified with all that can compose luxuriant scenery, and with just as much approach to the sublime as is in the province of unterrific beauty" (*Diary*, 1791).

"Through Bridport's stony lanes our way
we take,
And the proud steep descend to Morcomb-
lake.
On unadulterate wine we here regale,
And rob the lobster of his scarlet mail.
On either side low fertile vallies lie,
The distant prospects tire the travelling eye."
—*Gay*.

As we commence the ascent the remarkable conical eminence of *Colmer's Hill*, almost volcanic in its outline, is a striking object on the rt. At its foot lies

1½ m. rt. *Symondsbury*, the birthplace of Addison's friend and fellow-worker Eustace Budgell, the son of the rector of the parish, who, maddened by losses in the South Sea Bubble, drowned himself at London Bridge, 1737. The cruciform *Ch.* with central tower lessening as it rises, deserves notice. Bp. Gulston of Bristol, Addison's maternal uncle, is buried in the chancel, d. 1684.

2¾ m. *Chideock*, the seat of an ancient family of the same name, whose noble house, continually taken and retaken in the Great Rebellion, was at last "slighted" (*i.e.* ruined) by order of Col. Ceeley, Governor of Lyme, 1645. The remains were still standing in 1733, when Buck published a view of them. The site of the house may be traced in a field N.E. of the ch. The *Ch.*, restored 1880, is mostly Perp. and contains an effigy of a knight in plate armour, probably of

Sir John Arundell, on an altar-tomb of black marble. A little stream running through the valley enters the sea at *Down Cliffs*. Another long climb brings us to the hamlet of

$4\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Morcomb Lake* (296 ft. above sea), commanding a wide view over the Vale of Marshwood and the remarkable hills which encircle it. To the l. lies *Golden Cap*, with its signal station 610 ft. above the sea that washes its base: rt. is *Hardown Hill*, looking down upon *Whitchurch*.

[To the rt. spreads the deep enclosed district known as the *Vale of Marshwood*. This district is little visited, and presents no very attractive features, except in the early summer, when it is a perfect blaze of wild flowers. It is truly spoken of as "a terrible rough country," based on the cold stiff clay of the lias. Crowe, who knew it well, thus describes it—

"In wintry days,
Cold, vapourish, miry, wet, and to the flocks
Unfriendly, when autumnal rains begin
To drench the spongy turf."

—*Crowe's 'Lewesdon Hill.'*

It is, however, remarkable for the large size of its oaks. Loudon mentions a tree of this kind, on the estate of *Stockham*, below *Lewesdon Hill*, as 52 ft. in height and 22 ft. in circumference. "It stands," he says, "singly on rising ground, and attracts the notice of travellers." The *Chapel* of Marshwood was ruined in the Great Rebellion. Of the *Castle* there are some remains of a Norman keep.

The capital of this ill-favoured tract of ground is 1 m. N., *Whitchurch Canonicorum*, one of the largest parishes in the county, lying in the heart of the vale, the soil of which is uninvitingly described by Hutchins as "rich, deep, and dirty," with roads almost impassable in winter or wet summers. Since his time some improvement has taken place. The name of the parish points to a time when its church of

white stone was a notable object among the wattled or wooden edifices with which the religion of our early ancestors was contented. Later authorities derive it from a mythical eponymous saint, "St. White" or "Sancta Candida," whose well was shown in Coker's time. The name *Canonicorum* was given in consequence of the rectory being appropriated to the canons of Salisbury and Wells. The kings of Wessex had large estates in this vicinity. *Whitchurch* was bequeathed by King Alfred to his youngest son *Ethelward*.

The *Ch.* (Holy Cross) deserves notice (restored 1849). It is cruciform with a W. tower. The chancel and part of the nave are Trans. Norman, of which style the S. door is a beautiful example: the transepts c. 1200; the tower c. 1400. The nave arcade is partly Trans. Norman. The capitals merit attention. The oak roof, c. 1400. The font is coeval with the earliest part of the edifice. In the N. transept is a large altar-tomb to some of the De Mandeville family. In the chancel is a remarkably rich altar-tomb with pedimental canopy, and well-executed effigy to Sir John Jeffery, Knt., of Catherstone, d. 1611. There is also a tomb to John Wadham, of Catherstone, Captain of Sandsfoot Castle, and Recorder of Lyme, d. 1584; and a slab with Lombardic capitals to Geoffrey de Luda and his wife Eleanor, with the matrix of a floriated cross.]

A long descent along the flank of *Stonebarrow Hill*, with the heights of *Catherston* (where is a beautiful little ch., built by the late R. C. Hildyard, 1857; the bell a trophy from Sebastopol), *Coneygore*, and *Lambert's Castle*, rising one beyond the other, before us, brings us to the little watering-place of

$7\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Charmouth* (*Inns*: Coach and Horses; George), 5 m. S.E. of Ax-

minster Stat., a charming village in a lovely situation, with a sprinkling of villas slowly climbing the hill, called by Hutchins "the Plinlimmon of Dorset." It consists of one long street, or rather road, situated above the mouth of the *Char*, flowing from the abundant springs of the Vale of Marshwood, the leading feature of the view being the heights which hedge in the valley, particularly those from which the road has just descended. It is a place with some historical memoirs. Here were fought two sanguinary battles between the piratical hordes of the Danes and Saxons. In the first, A.D. 833, the Saxons were commanded by Egbert; in the second, A.D. 840, by Ethelwolf. In both, the Danes were victorious. At Charmouth, too, in the attempted escape of Charles II. to France, after his concealment at Trent, subsequent to his defeat at Worcester, occurred the incident which so nearly led to the discovery of the fugitive. A plan had been concerted with the captain of a merchantman trading to Lyme, that a boat, at a particular hour of the night, should be sent to the beach at Charmouth. Charles rode hither under the guidance of Lord Wilmot and Colonel Wyndham, and rested at the little inn to await the appointed time. The suspicions of the wife of the owner of the vessel being awakened, she threatened to give instant information to the local authorities if he did not give up the engagement. No vessel therefore was forthcoming at the appointed hour, so that the fugitive was obliged to give up the enterprise, and to pass the night in the village. The next morning it was found that his horse had cast a shoe, and the village blacksmith was summoned to repair the loss. This was a curious fellow, who remarked that "the horse's 3 shoes had been set in 3 different counties, and one of them in Worcestershire." The hostler, who was a Republican soldier, and

who had had his suspicions already aroused, carried the information to the Puritan minister of the place, Bartholomew Wesley, the ancestor of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. From the minister it went to the magistrate; and from the magistrate to the captain of a troop of horse, who soon galloped with his men in pursuit. Fortunately for the king, they took the wrong road, and he escaped to Bridport, and thence by Broadwindsor to Salisbury. The "king's bed-room," in a part of the old inn, now inhabited as a cottage, is pointed out. The house is the next above the chapel.

The late Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, was at school at Charmouth, to which he refers in his 'School of the Heart' as "that steep-built village on the Southern shore."

The *Church* was rebuilt in the E. E. of the time, in 1836, and improved in 1861.

Charmouth began to emerge from its condition of an agricultural and fishing village at the beginning of the century, and to assume the character of a watering-place. Miss Austen, in her 'Persuasion,' speaks of its "high grounds and extensive sweeps of country, and its sweet retired bay backed by dark cliffs, where fragments of low rock among the sands make it the happiest spot for watching the flow of the tide."

The cliffs at Charmouth, descending in dark slopes to the sea, exhibit a fine section of the strata (described under Bridport), and abound in interesting fossil remains. These include the bones of colossal Saurians (*see* Lyme), of the Pterodactyle, and numerous fish. Ammonites and belemnites, are found in great quantities on *Golden Cap*. The lias contains much bituminous matter and iron pyrites, which have frequently taken fire after heavy rains. Remarkable instances occurred in 1531 and 1751. A bed of gravel at the mouth of the river contains the bones of the elephant

and rhinoceros, and the remains of trees.

Trout, and in the proper season salmon-peel, may be caught in the *Char*. "A small irregular alder-fringed playful river, full of strange fish, such as inland streams yield not; dabs and flounders and the like."—*Dean Alford*.

N. of Charmouth 3 m. is *Conie* (i.e. the King's) *Castle*, supposed to have been the camp of Egbert when he fought with the Danes; and 4 m. *Lambert's Castle*, another strong entrenchment, having triple mounds and ditches, pierced by 3 outlets. The area of the last is 12 acres, and shaped like a D. A fair is held here twice a year.

From the higher end of this village you ascend into a deep cutting called the *New Passage*. The road then skirts the slope of a great hill-crescent, with a beautiful view of Lyme far below on the margin of the sea. The descent is long and steep. One on foot may shorten the distance by a field-path, which runs direct from the summit to the new *Cemetery*, a pretty spot on the outskirt of the town.

9½ m. LYME REGIS (*Inns*: Three Cups; Golden Lion. Pop. of municipal borough, 2043). Public conveyances run from Lyme to the Axminster Stat. (5½ m.) of the S.-W. Rly., and through Charmouth to the Bridport Stat. of the G. W. Rly., 9 m. W. Lyme, described by Macaulay as "a small knot of steep and narrow alleys lying on a coast, wild, rocky, and beaten by a stormy sea," is situated in a most romantic position at the foot of the hills, being built in the hollow and on the slopes of a deepcombe, "the principal street almost hurrying into the water" (*Miss Austen*), through which flows the small stream of the *Lym*, or *Buddell*, to the sea. It is seated on a grand coast, which rises E. in the blackest precipices, and W.

in broken crags thickly mantled with wood. The climate is very mild during the winter; and it is at all times exceedingly healthy. It contains a good hotel and lodging-houses, and is well supplied with shops. The neighbourhood is so abundant in beauty and interest that we may thoroughly accept Miss Austen's dictum, that "he must be a very strange stranger who does not see charms enough in the immediate vicinity of Lyme, to make him wish to know it better."

Leland describes Lyme as "a praty market town set in the rootes of an high rokky hille down to the hard shore. There cummith a shalow broke from the hilles about a 3 miles by north, and cummith fleting on great stones through a stone bridge in the botom."

Lyme first appears (A.D. 774) in a charter of Kynewulf, king of the West Saxons, who granted one manse to the Abbey of Sherborne to supply the monks with salt. Edward I. enfranchised it, and granted it the liberties of a haven and borough, and assigned it as part of the dower of his sister Margaret of Scotland (?). It supplied Edward III. with 4 ships and 62 mariners for the siege of Calais, but was much impoverished during the reigns of Henry IV. and V., when it was twice plundered and burnt by the French. It also suffered much from inroads of the sea. The men of Lyme furnished 2 ships to the fleet which met the Spanish Armada in 1588. The first engagement between the two fleets was in sight of the hills above the town. During the Great Rebellion it was held by the Parliament against the King, and successfully withstood a siege, which was one of the most important of the time, the failure of which greatly tarnished the military reputation of Prince Maurice. It commenced on April 20, 1644, and lasted till June 15, when the town was relieved by the approach of the Earl

of Essex. The defence was maintained with the utmost heroism by the inhabitants, under the command of Col. Ceely, the governor, assisted by Blake, afterwards the well-known Admiral. Even women took part in the defence. One is said to have discharged 16 muskets at one attack. A maid who had one hand cut off professed her readiness to lose not only her other hand, but her life also in the cause. The besiegers concentrated their force at *Colway* and *Hay*, in the former of which Prince Maurice had his quarters. He was supported by Lord Talbot, &c., with 2500 men. The town was speedily invested, batteries were raised, frequent assaults made, and the inhabitants soon began to suffer all the miseries of a siege. The arrival of the Lord High Admiral, Lord Warwick, on May 23, with a small naval force, greatly encouraged them; but provisions ran short, and the condition of the town began to wax desperate, when the approach of Lord Essex forced the besiegers to raise the siege and retire. On May 16, Hugh Peters, who had supported the courage of the inhabitants by his fiery eloquence, preached a thanksgiving sermon for the deliverance of the town. Lyme is said not to have lost more than 120 men during the siege, while the loss of the besiegers nearly reached 2000, whom they buried near Colway. The Parliament testified their sense of the importance of the result of the siege by a vote of 2000*l.* and 26 dozen pair of shoes, and other gratuities to the men of Lyme.

The next event of historic interest that illustrates the annals of Lyme is the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, June 11, 1685. Immediately on reaching the shore Monmouth knelt down and thanked God for having preserved the friends of liberty and pure religion from the perils of the sea, and implored the Divine blessing on his enterprise.

The townspeople at once espoused his cause with enthusiasm. The little town was in an uproar with men running to and fro, and shouting "a Monmouth! a Monmouth! the Protestant Religion!" His ensign was set up in the Market-place, his military stores were placed in the Town-hall, and his declaration was read from the Cross. The mayor, Alford, was a zealous Tory, and immediately gave the alarm to the neighbouring gentry, and took horse for the West, despatching a few hurried lines with the ill-tidings to London. An event of evil omen clouded the outset of Monmouth's enterprise. Fletcher of Saltoun having quarrelled with Dare, Monmouth's secretary, about a horse he had seized, drew a pistol and shot him dead, and was forced to retreat to the ships to escape the clamorous vengeance. Still recruits came in by hundreds, among whom was Daniel de Foe, then about 24 years old. Arming and drilling went on all day, and in spite of the repulse of Grey, who had marched with 500 men to attack Bridport, and "never stopt till they were safe in Lyme again," a sufficient force was raised by June 15, to present so formidable a front to Albemarle at Axminster as to cause him to retreat. The unfortunate town soon had to pay for its burst of enthusiasm. After Jeffreys' Bloody Assize at Dorchester, 13 townsmen were executed here, Sept. 12, among whom were William Hewling, a lad of 19, whose brother Benjamin ("they were young, handsome, accomplished, and well connected"—*Macaulay*) perished at Taunton; the corpse of Wm. Hewling was carried to his grave in the churchyard "by young women of the best of the town;" and Christopher Battiscombe, "a young Templar of family and fortune of Dorchester, where he was regarded as the model of a fine gentleman. He was engaged to the sister of the high sheriff, who threw herself at the feet of Jeffreys to beg for mercy; but

he drove her from him with a hideous jest. He suffered at Lyme, firmly and courageously.”—*Macaulay*.

Cosmo di Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, landed here on his visit to England in 1669, Mar. 30. The English and Dutch fleets had an engagement off Lyme in 1672, in which the latter were defeated.

William Pitt, then “a wonderful boy of 14,” spent the summer of 1773 at Lyme, with his elder brother, for the benefit of sea-bathing. There Hayley the poet became acquainted with him, and “often reflected on the singular pleasure he had derived from his young acquaintance, regretting, however, that his reserve had prevented his imparting to the wonderful youth the epic poem he had begun. The very youngest critic that ever perhaps any poet chose.” (*Stanhope* ‘Life of Pitt,’ i. 4.)

“This town,” says Leland, “hath good shippes, and usith fishing and marchaundise. Marchaunts of Morleys in Britaine (Morlaix in Brittany) much haunt this town.” In Camden’s time it was hardly reported a seaport town, and was frequented by few but fishermen. Salt, wine, and wool were among the early articles of commerce, and trade in elephants’ tusks and gold dust was carried on with the African coast. The trade with Morlaix, mentioned by Leland, was in serges and linens only manufactured here; a branch of commerce which was totally destroyed at the breaking out of the war with France, temp. William III. From this date the general trade of the town began to decline, and at the end of the 18th century was almost extinct. About 1760 the prosperity of the town was at its lowest ebb. It had but little shipping, few respectable inhabitants, and no influx of strangers. After this it became a place of resort for sea-bathers, and its fortunes began to revive. It is well sheltered from the N. and E. winds, so that the climate is warm in winter, while

the sea-breezes temper the too great heat during the summer. The bathing is good, the sands pleasant, and the force of the sea is broken by the Cobb. There is not much gaiety; but Lyme affords an agreeable resort for those who wish to spend a quiet holiday by the seaside, and its neighbourhood affords many attractions in its varied scenery, and the geological riches of its cliffs.

The *Church* (St. Michael), which has been well restored, is a Perp. building of some merit, standing perilously near the edge of the crumbling cliff at the E. end of the town. The ground plan is curious, a large late Perp. church having been added to the E. of the low rude tower of a cruciform ch. of the 12th century. A stump of the original nave remains to the W. of the tower, and serves as vestibule and vestry-room. On the capitals of the nave are the initials of William Day, mayor in 1491; and the Harrington knot, commemorating the benefaction of Cicely Bonville, Lady Harrington, of Shute, d. 1480. A Jacobean gallery—and pulpit, the gift of Richard Harvey, mercer of London and merchant-adventurer of Lyme, deserve notice. The three largest bells were cast into cannon during the siege. W. Hewling’s tomb, originally to the S. of the ch-yd., has been removed, and a portion of the inscriptions worked into the pavement of the N. aisle.

Among the natives of Lyme may be named *Sir George Somers*, b. 1554, the discoverer of the Bermudas, or “Somers’ Isle.” He died at Bermuda 1610, and was buried at Whitechurch Canonorum. *Arthur Gregory*, whose “admirable talent of forcing the seal of a letter, that it appeared untouched,” recommended him to Sir F. Walsingham, then member for Lyme—who by his means obtained knowledge of the contents of the correspondence of the foreign ambassadors, as well as of Mary Queen of

Scots. *Captain Thomas Coram*, b. c. 1668, the founder of "The Foundling Hospital" in London. *Dr. Case*, quack and astrologer in the reign of James II. Case made a large fortune by his practice, and on setting up a carriage placed the following quaint motto under his arms—"The Case is altered;" and lastly, *Mary Anning*, (d. 1847), who discovered the Saurian remains. She was the daughter of a vendor of curiosities, and was only 10 years of age when in 1811 she found the first Saurian in the cliff, now in the British Museum. A painted window has been put up in the ch. to her memory by the members of the Geological Society.

The *George Inn*, where Monmouth slept during his stay at Lyme, was burnt down 1844.

The *Cobb*, or pier, so called from a very remote period. It was probably first constructed in the reign of Edward I. It has been frequently washed away, and restored at a great price, and was finally renewed and strengthened in 1825-6, after the tremendous storm of Nov. 23, 1824, when 232 ft. of the pier and 447 ft. of the parapet were rebuilt at a cost of 17,337*l.* It is a semicircular structure, of great strength, the thick outer wall rising high above the roadway, so as to protect it from the wind and sea. Its length is 1179 ft., and its extreme breadth 35 ft. The regular curve of this parapet produces a singular effect. It concentrates at a certain point the sounds uttered at another, and thus forms a "whispering gallery," in which two persons may converse at a distance from each other, as in the dome of St. Paul's. For this purpose one speaker should take his station by the steps near the tablet, and the other by the slip. The view from this pier is extremely beautiful, extending across the West Bay to Portland. Close at hand are hills whose bleak bare fronts descend in precipices to the sea, tier upon tier. The

most remarkable of these is called *Golden Cap*, a well-known landmark. Above the town rises *Rhodehorn*, its summit pierced by the cutting of *New Passage*, sometimes called the *Devil's Bellows*, from the extreme fury of the gusts which sweep through it. The pier is a busy spot, there being a considerable export of cement stones, now so largely used for stucco. To the geologist the cliffs will be a mine of interest. The spot most prolific in the bones of reptiles is the *Black Vein*, between Lyme and Charmouth. The cliffs waste rapidly under the assault of the sea, the *Church cliffs* at Lyme receding at the rate of 3 ft. a year. Charmouth Lane, which once traversed them from Lyme to Charmouth, has long since disappeared.

[Among the walks in the neighbourhood may be mentioned—

(a) To the *Undercliff*, W. of the town. The path proceeds to it through Holmbush-field, commanding a fine view of the coast, and then runs for about a mile along the broken ground, as far as *Pinhay House*. The path passes at one spot the *Chimney Rock*, projecting from the *Ware Cliffs*, and at another the *Whitechapel Rocks*, so called as the place of meeting of Non-conformists, who, being persecuted after the Restoration, met for worship in this solitude.

(b) To *Middle Mill*, about a mile up the combe at the back of the town. In its vicinity are *Old Colway House* and *Hay Farm*, the head-quarters of Prince Maurice when he besieged Lyme.

(c) To *Charmouth* by the sands when the tide permits it.

(d) The *Pinhay Landslip* is rather more distant than the preceding, but still within an easy walk. You take the lane to *Dowland's Farm*, 3 m., and thence proceed along a cart-road down the cliff. The entire coast between Lyme and the mouth of the river Axe has been the scene

of disturbances similar to those which have produced such charming scenery in the Isle of Wight, and to be attributed to the same cause—the undermining action of the land-springs. The chalk and sandstone forming the upper portion of the down rests on loose sand, which in its turn reposes on an impervious bed of clay shelving towards the shore. The rain, percolating the upper beds, collects on the clay, and washes away the sand as it filters to the sea. Cavities are thus formed, and into these at length the superstratum is precipitated, and being rent by the convulsion, it glides forward on its slippery basis. Such landslips have occurred along this coast at various periods, but that of Pinhay was remarkable for the extent of ground it devastated, and for the wild scene it created. It occurred at Christmas, 1839, over an area of 40 acres, on the farms of Bendon and Dowlands. The damage done was considerable; 40 acres of good land had been lost for ever to cultivation, an orchard had been roughly transplanted, and two cottages moved bodily and deposited with shattered walls at a much lower level. The finest views are to be obtained from the brink of the cliffs overhanging the landslip, from the cottage, from the knolls near the sea, and from the E. end of the great chasm, which is situated just W. of the mural precipice. The features of the scene are much changed since the landslip occurred, and are continually changing. A path runs E. for about 1 m., ascending again at *Whitlands*, 2 m. from Lyme, where a small landslip occurred, Feb. 1840, a month or two after that at Dowlands. The farmhouse at *Bendon*, nearly opposite the great chasm, and rt. of the lane to Axmouth, retains the interesting features of a manor-house of the 16th cent. It was long a seat of a branch of the Erles. Sir Walter Erle, a distinguished officer on the side of the Parliament, resided here. Bendon is

about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. both from Axmouth and the ferry at Seaton.

Ford Abbey, 10 m. N. (Rte. 28), may be made the object of an excursion from Lyme.

Hawksdown over Axmouth, and *Musbury* to the N. of it, are Roman camps commanding the valley of the Axe, and affording extensive views. *Conie Castle* and *Lambert's Castle*, the strong entrenchments in the vale of Marshwood, N. of Charmouth, and *Lewesdon* and *Pillesdon*, curious twin hills further N., are often visited from Lyme.]

ROUTE 15.

DORCHESTER TO YEOVIL [MAIDEN
NEWTON TO BRIDPORT.]

(*Great Western Railway.*)

Leaving the Gt. Western station on Fordington Field, the rly. skirts the W. side of the town, and dives in a tunnel under Poundbury Camp. Emerging into the valley of the Frome, we have rt. *Wolveton Hall* and *Charminster*.

At $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. we cross the Frome and espy l. among the orchards the spire of *Bradford Peverel Ch.*, rebuilt 1850 (the Broad ford across the Frome): rt. is *Stratton*, "the street town," taking its name from its position on the Roman Way. A very curious wooden staircase in the tower of the *Ch.* deserves notice. In the churchyard is the base of a stone cross.

4 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Grimstone Stat.*, where we look over the green meadows and runnels of water to the woods of Frampton. Here we enter a tunnel of 600 yards through the chalk, on emerging from which we have

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Frampton* (Frome-town), embowered in umbrageous woods, and surrounded by gently rising hills. It was formerly a cell of St. Stephen's of Caen. For many generations the seat of the family of Browne, it passed by will in 1833 to Sir Colquhoun Grant, a distinguished military officer, who served in the Peninsular campaign, and had 5 horses shot under him at Waterloo. His daughter married the grandson and namesake of the famous Richard Brindsley Sheridan. *Frampton Court* (R. B. Sheridan, Esq.) was built in 1704 by Robt. Browne, Esq., who also added an incongruous tower to the *Ch.*, which was thoroughly restored in 1862, and contains memorials of the Brownes from Sir John, d. 1627. The ancient stone pulpit is adorned with figures in monastic attire, bearing ecclesiastical vessels and books, and a modern relief of the Virgin and Child. The visitor looks in vain for a memorial to John Browne, the zealous Parliamentarian, d. 1659, styled by Oliver Cromwell the "Old Roman," for the determination with which he gave his vote for bringing Charles I. to trial.

A very celebrated mosaic pavement, in which the Christian "labarum," appeared in singular combination with figures of Neptune and Cupid, and other pagan emblems, was discovered at *Frampton*, 1794-6, on Mr. Sheridan's estates. George III. took so much interest in the discovery that he ordered a detachment of soldiers to be placed at Mrs. Lysons' disposal for its careful disinterment. It was afterwards covered over with earth again.

Continuing along rich cattle-studded water-meadows, we pass l.

2. m. *Frome Vauchurch* with its *Ch.*, which has a Norm. chancel arch, N. doorway and piscina, an E. E. triplet, and a good Jacobean pulpit, and reach

7 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Maiden Newton Stat.* Maiden Newton was given by the Conqueror to "Waleran the Hunter." The *Ch.* seems originally to have been a Norm. cruciform building with a central tower, and will reward examination: it retains some early Norman work, including the N. door and chancel arch. The base of the tower is earlier still, and may be Saxon. The Dec. roof of the nave is of unusual design. The Perp. porch includes the remains of a Norman one. In the village are an old Inn and the base of a cross.

The father of Dr. Andrew Reed, the founder of the London Orphan Asylum and other philanthropic institutions (d. 1862), was born at Maiden Newton, where his family had been settled for some generations.

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., crossing the Roman road from Dorchester to Ilchester known as Long Ash Lane, *Sydling St. Nicholas* lies in a pleasant nook in the chalk downs. The *Ch.* is a plain, solid, late Perp. building, with a stately tower, a N. porch the whole height of the nave, and a chancel, rebuilt 1750 by Sir W. Smith. In the churchyard stands the manor-house, originally the residence of the Husseys, then of the Smiths. A very fine tithe barn stands to the S.E. of the church, bearing on one of its oak timbers the initials of Lady Ursula Walsingham, 1590, wife of Sir F. Walsingham, lessee under Winchester College. In the village is the shaft of an ancient cross.

[A branch line of the Gt. Western Rly. here diverges to Bridport, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. It runs at first up a valley watered by a little feeder of the Frome, under Whitesheet Hill, N., and passes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Toller Fratrum*,

so called because originally the property of the brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, the *Ch.* of which (St. Basil) has a fine Norm. font with the bowl covered with sculptured figures. Here was the seat of the Samway and Fulfords, of which a large portion remains. It is one of the most picturesque specimens of domestic architecture remaining in Dorsetshire, with very rich details, especially the chimneys. The principal part was probably erected by Sir Francis Fulford, the distinguished Royalist, at the beginning of the 17th cent.

Cattistock Castle is a circular earthwork, containing about 4 acres, with a double rampart.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Toller Porcorum Stat.*, a place deriving its uneuphonious name from the number of swine that formerly found food here. The *Ch.*, with its square embattled tower, is a picturesque object from the rly.]

[*Wynford Eagle*, 2 m. S., was the birthplace of Sydenham, the famous physician in the reign of Charles II. b. 1624. The old house of the Sydenhams remains, containing a richly carved fireplace. Chief Justice Best took his title of Lord Wynford from this place. The modern *Ch.* preserves outside the E. end a very remarkable tympanum of a Norman door with enigmatical inscriptions. At Lord Wynford's cottage at Stratcombe, remains of a Roman villa with tessellated pavements have been discovered.]

The line runs towards Bridport over a rolling gorse-covered common to

$6\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Poorstock Stat.* (Beaminster is 5 m. N.W.) *Poorstock Castle* is a Celtic earthwork, enclosing the site of a castle or manor-house connected by local tradition with King Athelstan, who is said to have had a winter palace here, occupying the summit of a steep isolated hill. King

John visited his manor at Poorstock in 1205 and onwards. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, preserving all the more interesting features, including the rich Norm. chancel arch, the S. arcade of the nave, and the S. door with its elaborate niches and pinnacles. 1 m. S.E. is the remarkable entrenchment of *Eggardon Hill* (Rte. 14). To the rt. of the rly. in a nook in the hills stretches the long grey front of *Mappercombe*, worth inspection.

$7\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Loders Ch.*, a picturesque object from the rly., is mainly Perp. with a Norm. font and a rich octagonal staircase turret, and a fine Perp. tower, and contains a monument to Sir Evan Nepean, d. 1822. A cell of the Norman monastery of Monteburg was founded here by Baldwin de Redvers, *temp.* Henry I.

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. BRIDPORT (Rte. 14).]

Returning to the main line—

$15\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. *Chilfrome*, with a small modern bell-gabled *Ch.*, stands at the base of Chilfrome Down, across the S. flank of which runs the Crewkerne road, known by the very curious name of *Crimmer* (quasi-*Cromlech*) *Crock Lane*. A little further on the other side of the line the traveller has a glimpse of the fine E. E. *Ch.* of *Cattistock*, nearly rebuilt, and elaborately decorated; and further still of the gables and chimneys of *Chalmington House* (Col. J. A. Digby).

$16\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Wraxhall* was the seat of the Laurences, two of whom, William and Henry, were of note in the civil disturbances of Charles I.'s time. Milton's sonnet,

"Laurence of virtuous father virtuous son,"

was addressed to the son of the latter, who was a member of Cromwell's Parliament of 1653, President of the Council, and member of his Upper House. The little *Ch.* has a bell-turret, a Norm. door and chancel arch, and E. E. chancel

2 m. up the valley is *Rampisham*

(pronounced *Ramsom*), known for its prettily situated church, and for a curiously-sculptured *cross* (in the churchyard) with a long flat stone for preaching attached to it. Fifty years since could be traced the stoning of St. Stephen, the martyrdoms of St. Edmund and of St. Thomas à Becket, and two crowned figures sitting at a long table, with a man kneeling on one knee. Over the projections at each end of the panels were carved St. Peter, with a scroll, the cock standing on a pillar; 2 fools and 2 monks seated; and 2 men in armour, standing. The whole sculpture is now nearly obliterated, with the exception of the stoning of St. Stephen. In the lane which runs to Evershot is the mutilated shaft of another cross 5 ft. high. The *Ch.*, which is a very good one, has been partly rebuilt, and is well arranged with a stalled chancel. The tower is at the E. end of the S. aisle, and has the traces of an altar and reredos on the E. wall. A tessellated pavement was discovered here in 1799, on the common to the W. of the village.

17½ m. l. the long gabled front of the manor-house of *Chantmarle*, robbed of its wings, attracts attention, and is worth examining. [It is a pleasant walk of 3 m. from the Maiden Newton Station, by Cattistock and Chalmington. Evershot Station is 1½ m. N. distant.] *Chantmarle* was built A.D. 1619 by Sir John Strode, but never completed. Detached from the house S. stands the chapel, a curious specimen of the debased Gothic of the period. A very curious account of the building of this chapel and its consecration by Bp. Searchfield of Bristol, Sept. 14, 1619, is given in the last edition of Hutchin's "Dorset."

To the rt. is *Frome St. Quintin*, where the small *Ch.* has some Norm. portions and a good Perp. porch.

11¼ m. *Evershot Stat.* Just beyond the station is *Holywell tunnel*, a very

difficult and expensive work, as it is excavated in a loose greensand full of springs. It pierces the hill in a curve 220 yards. The village is 1 m. W.

The *Ch.*, a chapelry of Frome St. Quintin, has been almost rebuilt, but retains its N. arcade and other ancient portions. 1½ m. E. romantically situated at the foot of the chalk down, is *Batcombe Ch.*, rebuilt 1864, except the fine embattled W. tower and the S. wall. The font is Norm. and very curious. A tomb in the churchyard, formerly touching the wall of the aisle, according to the village legend, covers the grave of "Conjuring Minterne, who vowed that he would be buried neither in the church nor out of it." In a wild unfrequented spot on Batcombe common, 1 m. E., is a singular stone pillar, called the "*Cross and Hand*." The capital bears a hand, and was surmounted by a bowl. An ancient tumulus, *Modbury* or *Modbarrow*, gives its name to the hundred.

Melbury Park, the seat of the Fox Strangways, Earls of Ilchester (shown when the family is absent), is situated immediately to the N. of Evershot, and the road through it is a public footway. The house was built, according to Leland, by Sir Giles Strangways, who died 1547, "with a lofty and fresche tower." Much of the mansion is earlier, but none before the 15th cent. The plan forms three limbs of a cross, with a hexagon tower at the intersection. In the S. limb is a fine oriel, and a rich Elizabethan ceiling and fireplace. The E. front is of Queen Anne's time, with Corinthian pilasters. The saloon contains several fine pictures,—a good Rembrandt, Canaletti, &c.; and in the dining-room is a replica, if not the original, of the picture of Queen Elizabeth's progress described under Sherborne Castle. The library, with an open timber roof, was added from Mr.

Salvin's designs. The view of the house standing on its rising lawn, with its quaint front and tower, as seen from the lake below, is very picturesque. On the S. side is the *Church of Melbury Sampford*, a structure with pinnaced tower, a very small ch., cross, all of same date, 15th centy., restored with new roofs to nave and chancel, oaken stalls, pulpit, at the cost of the Earl of Ilchester, 1876. The reredos of marble represents the Last Supper, and the chancel walls are enriched with carvings and inlaid marbles. There are two canopied tombs and a statue by Chantrey to the Countess of Ilchester. It contains several monuments to the Brownings, and one, with alabaster effigies, to "Egidius Strangewaies" and "Dorothee" his wife. There is also a brass to Sir Giles Strangways, 1562. On the S. side a sloping lawn descends to a lake in a charming dell, from which rises a wood terraced at the top. W. of the house is a remarkably fine avenue of 4 rows of sycamores; N. of it a grove of lofty oaks, limes, sycamores, and chesnuts; and E., beyond a valley, the wooded eminence of *Bubb Down*, a conspicuous landmark, over which are numerous drives commanding a most extensive and beautiful prospect. Alfred's Tower at Stourhead, Wells Cathedral, the Mendips and Quantocks, may be seen at different points. Towards the S. a road traverses the park to *Evershot*, and towards the N. another directs its course between two valleys (each with its stream) to the little village of *Melbury Osmund*, decked with innumerable creepers, ivy, and laurel hedges, and a curious old yew-tree leaning over the road. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1745. The estate of Melbury is distinguished for the size of its oaks, which thrive on the stiff, retentive soil. One known as *Billy Wilkins*, 50 ft. high and 37 ft. in circumference, is "as

curled, surly, knotty an old monster as can be conceived."

The Oxford clay of this district contains masses of septaria or cement-stone, which are polished under the name of *Melbury marble*.

The rly. has now reached its highest point, and begins to descend towards Yeovil, accompanying a small stream, one of the affluents of the river Yeo. *Bubb Down* rises to the l.: rt. is the village of *Chetnole*, with a Perp. *Ch.* to which a well-designed chancel and aisle have been added as a memorial to the late Major Chadwick, d. 1859. Chetnole is a chapelry to

16½ m. *Yetminster*. (The minster or church standing at the gate in the line of downs through which the little river flows.) The *Ch.*, with a pinnaced tower, is an interesting Perp. building, retaining many of its ancient carved oak benches and traces of a very large rood-loft containing originally no less than three altars, with two more below it. On the outside are many consecration crosses, one appearing on the apex of the W. window. It has a fine brass to Sir John Horsey (in complete armour), d. 1531, and his lady.

At *Leigh*, 2 m. E. of Chetnole, are some small traces of a maze about ¼ m. S. of the village. In the village are the remains of two ancient crosses. The *Ch.* is a good Perp. building with an embattled tower and good oak roofs.

19¼ m. is *Clifton Maybank Stat.*, close to the remains of the fine old manorial house of Clifton Maybank.

20½ m. YEOVIL (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 16.

DORCHESTER TO SHERBORNE, BY
CERNE ABBAS.

Leaving Dorchester, and crossing the Frome with Poundbury on the l., we reach

2 m. *Charminster* (Rte. 13). The road continues to ascend the valley of the little river Cerne to $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Godmanstone*. The little *Ch.* is of debased Perp. with the exception of the chancel arch and S. porch, which shows some original Norm. work with recent additions.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Nether Cerne*. The little flint built *Ch.* is chiefly E.E. and has an eastern triplet. The S. chantry chapel is early Dec. and has some good features. The font of Purbeck marble has a cup-shaped bowl and later base.

$7\frac{1}{4}$ m., 1 m. l., CERNE ABBAS (New Inn. Pop. 1185), is a small town, once notorious for smugglers, on the river Cerne, surrounded by chalk hills. It was the site of a very large and important abbey, founded A.D. 987, by Ethelmar, Earl of Devon and Cornwall, on the site of a hermitage established by Ædwold, brother of Edmund the Martyr. The famous Ælfric, afterwards Abp. of Canterbury, was the first Abbot. He had been sent to Cerne by the Bishop of Winchester, to whom Ethelmar had applied for a monk to instruct his new society in the Benedictine rule. He translated his homilies into Anglo-Saxon, for the benefit of the brethren of Cerne who were unacquainted with Latin. The monastery was plundered by Canute, who afterwards atoned for his sacrilege by large endowments.

Its after-history supplies nothing worthy of mention till 1471, when Margaret of Anjou took refuge here with her young son on landing from the Continent at Weymouth, the day of the battle of Barnet. From Cerne she proceeded to Beaulieu (*Handbook to Hants*). Cardinal Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a monk of Cerne.

The only remains of the Abbey consist of the *Gate House*, the *Abbey House*, and a very fine *barn*. The *Gate House* is a very fine one of 3 stories, with a 2-storied oriel window over the fan-groined entrance, with escutcheons, and bands of panelling below and between the windows. The upper room is floored with encaustic tiles. The *Abbey House* was the residence of Denzil, Lord Holles. Of the ancient structure little exists except a ruin or two built by Abbot John Vaune (d. 1470), in which his cypher "J. V." may be seen over a chimney. The *barn* of the 15th century, now converted into a farmhouse, is a very fine example, with noble buttresses. Some traces of the park and gardens can still be discerned. On the summit of a hill to the N.E. are the foundations of the chapel of St. Catherine.

The *Ch.* is a fine example of the Perp. style with a noble tower, displaying a beautiful canopied niche enshrining a statue of the Virgin and Child. The chancel is separated from the nave by a very fine stone rood-screen (restored 1870). N. of the churchyard is an earthwork.

Immediately above the town rises a lofty eminence, popularly called the *Giant's Hill*, from an uncouth colossal figure cut on its chalky surface. It represents a man, 180 ft. in height, holding in his rt. hand a club 120 ft. long, and stretching forth the other. On the summit of the hill is an entrenchment called *Trendle* (i.e. a circle, A.-S.). Up Cerne, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E., had a curious little E. E. *Ch.*, now rebuilt, much of the old stonework being

preserved. It has a rude Purbeck marble font. Close to the church stands the picturesque mansion of the Mellors, built by Sir Robert Mellor (d. 1624). The *Manor House* has, on the outside, circles containing heads boldly carved. N. of Cerne, about 2 m., is *Minterne House*, seat of Lord Digby, formerly the property of the Churchills, one of whom, General Charles Churchill, brother of John Duke of Marlborough, almost entirely rebuilt the house. His monument is in the little unpretending *Ch.*, which also contains memorials of the Napiers and of Mary Countess of Gainsborough (d. 1693), and a brass to Admiral Digby (d. 1863).

Buckland Abbas, 4 m. N.E., lying on the steep declivity of the chalk downs, belonged to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The *Ch.* has a fine E. E. chancel, well restored, and a Perp. nave. The font is of very handsome design, ornamented with flat foliage and flowers. 3 m. further N.E. is Mappowder, the birthplace of Coker, the author of the "Survey of Dorsetshire." The seat of the Cokers, built 1564, has been pulled down. The *Ch.* of good, though late Perp. style, has been almost entirely rebuilt, preserving ancient portions. The Purbeck marble font deserves notice. There is a very curious diminutive cross-legged effigy in complete armour, scarcely 2 ft. long, the hands holding a heart, under an arch in the S. wall. It is probably supposed to mark the place where a heart was buried, the body lying elsewhere.

[*Piddletrenthide*, 3 m. E., is a very pleasant village on the slopes of the chalk downs, which command wide and beautiful views. The *Ch.* is an interesting building, ranking as one of the finest in the country, with a lofty pinnacled tower. The S. doorway and the piers of the chancel

arch are enriched Norm. The chancel contains monuments to members of the family of Bridge. That to Mr. John Bridge (member of the firm Rundle and Bridge, Ludgate Hill, d. 1834) is by the late eminent C. R. Cockerell, R.A. Over the W. door is the following inscription, probably commemorating Nicholas Locke, a native vicar, by whom the tower was erected:—

Est Pydel Trenth villa in Dorsedie comitatu
Nascitur in illa quam rexit vicariatu.

It bears the date 1487; a somewhat early example of the use of Arabic figures.]

10½ m. *Revels Hill*, l. The road here descends the escarpment of the chalk, and commands an extensive view over Somerset. *High Stoy*, 2 m. to the l., is one of the loftiest of the Dorsetshire downs.

11 m. *Middlemarsh*, near the source of a branch of the river Lidden. 1½ m. rt. is a very conspicuous earthwork, now overgrown with trees, crowning a hill, known as *Dungeon*, which commands a fine view.

At the foot of this hill is *Glanvilles Wootton* (7 m. S.E. of Sherborne), long the residence of J. C. Dale, Esq., a well-known entomologist, and now of his son, C. W. Dale, who has inherited his father's collections and taste for the science. The *Ch.* deserves notice. The S. aisle, originally the chantry of Sybilla de Glanville, has some rich Dec. windows, and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight, and some monuments of the Williams family. In this parish stands the ancient mansion of *Round Chimnies*, built c. 1590, now a farmhouse, but once the residence of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.

Pulham Church, 3 m. E. of Glanvilles Wootton, is an interesting building, originally cruciform, with aisles added in the 15th cent. A

hagioscope on each side of the chancel-arch is curiously filled in with an open screenwork of oak painted and gilt. The font has a circular bowl on a central column, and three detached shafts ornamented with a series of shallow, round-headed arches.

13 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Holnest Lodge*, the seat of J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq., stands in a park of 90 acres. It has a large picture gallery. In the park is a bronze statue of Mr. Drax, on a pillar. The *Ch.* is ancient.

15 m. *Long Burton*.

Lewston Park, occupied by Sir R. G. Glyn, Bart., master of the Blackmore Vale Foxhounds, 1 m. N.W. of Long Burton, was originally the seat of Sir John FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice of King's Bench, died 1539; (see Bruton, Rte. 23, p. 404) the house was rebuilt 1800, but a chapel built by the Chief Justice was preserved. — Bp. Ken visited Lewston, then the seat of the Hon. Mrs. Thynne, shortly before his death, Aug. 1710, and was there seized with his fatal illness. In *Long Burton Church*, chiefly Perp., restored with new N. aisle, 1873, is a rich Jacobean monument to Sir John FitzJames, d. 1625, and his wife, with effigies; and a monument with 3 effigies to Thos. Winston, Sir H. Winston, his son, "Lieutenant of the Brill," under Sir Thos. Cecil, d. 1609, and his wife Dionise, transferred from Standish, Gloucestershire, by their daughter Eleanor FitzJames.

Holwell House, 1 m. W., till lately a part of Somersetshire islanded by Dorset, occupies the site of the chief hunting lodge of the Forest of Blackmore, visited by King John and other of our sovereigns.

Stoke Gayland Church, 5 m. E., contains a cross-legged recumbent effigy in a coat of mail, probably of the 13th cent., in Hamhill stone. Its

execution is somewhat inferior. The church stands on the grounds of *Stock House*, the residence of Mrs. Yeatman.

The road descends Dancing Hill, and, crossing the Yeo, reaches 18 m. Sherborne (Rte. 12).

ROUTE 17.

THE ISLE OF PURBECK, AND THE COAST FROM SWANAGE TO WEST LULWORTH.

The *Isle of Purbeck* has no claim, regarded geographically, to the designation of an island. The eastern portion forms a bold promontory, divided from the mainland by the wide digitated expanse of Poole harbour, eaten out of the softer sands and clays by the erosion of the waves: but the remainder of the district cannot even be regarded as a peninsula. The civil boundaries are nothing more than the little stream of *Luckford Lake*, which, rising near the park of Lulworth Castle, runs N., and joins the Frome near Holme Bridge, and the Frome itself. The so-called *Isle* forms an irregular oval some 12 m. in length by 10 in breadth. It is in many respects a very interesting district. To the admirers of fine scenery it offers the attractions of a heath 10 m. in length, of a range of downs nearly 700 ft. in height, commanding magnificent views, and of a rock-bound coast sometimes fronting the open sea, sometimes retiring in

bays of remarkable beauty. The geologist also can here revel in a variety of strata, including beds of the tertiary, cretaceous, wealden, and oolitic formations, which are so arranged, by tilting of the strata on the eastern shore, that they may be as readily distinguished one from the other as books on a shelf. The southern part of the district is isolated by a range of chalk hills, known as the Purbeck Hills, running down to the sea at *Handfast Point*, between Studland and Swanage Bays to the E., and at Worbarrow Bay to the W., at both of which points the chalk rises in lofty perpendicular cliffs. Another range of hills of the oolitic formation runs nearly parallel with the chalk range to the S. from *Peveril Point*, E., to *Worbarrow Tout*, the southern point of Worbarrow Bay, W. Between these ranges lies a rich and fertile undulating valley of the Hastings sands, 11 m. long and from $\frac{3}{4}$ m. wide, diversified with a succession of isolated farms. Still further S., between the oolitic ridge and the sea, the coast line presents a series of low-level pasture lands in the Kimmeridge strata, and a succession of picturesque bays, extending from St. Aldhelm's Head westward. In ancient times the Isle of Purbeck was a royal deer-forest. Edward the Martyr had been hunting in its hills when he was murdered by Elfrida at Corfe; and successive kings continued to follow the chase here as late as the reign of James I. It is, however, better known for its quarries, which have been worked from a very early period, supplying both the shell-marble so largely used in the decoration of our more ancient cathedrals, and the freestone employed for paving and building purposes.

The geological structure of the district is well displayed on the cliffs between Studland and Durlston Head, the beds dipping to the N. and so appearing in succession. First come

the sandy slopes of the *Alum Bay series*, gay with a variety of colours. At Old Harry these give place to walls and flanking towers of *chalk*, with bands of flint at the Foreland, where the strata are tilted vertically. By their side are ranged *firestone*, *gault*, and *greensand*, 3 layers descending to the sea from the foot of the hills. Next come the beds of the *wealden* formation, viz. the *Hastings sand*, and *Purbeck limestone*, the former sweeping round the bay to Swanage, which stands on the junction line; the latter appearing to the W. of the point of Peveril, and extending in curved and twisted strata to Durlston Head, where the *Portland oolite* emerges from the sea and forms the headland. Beneath Encombe and Gad Cliff appears the *Kimmeridge clay*, with its beds of bituminous shale known as *Kimmeridge coal*. Ammonites of large size abound in the oolite, which is overlaid by the "dirt bed" which contains large trunks of trees, and in the wealden the bones of fish and of huge reptiles, the bucklers of turtles, the little bodies of flies and beetles. The teeth of fish are very numerous, and are called "fishes' eyes" by the quarrymen, who in 1847 first brought to light the *Swanage crocodile*, described by Dr. Mantell, and now in the British Museum. Remains of the iguanodon occur in the Hastings beds of Swanage Bay.

The chief place in the Isle of Purbeck is the little town of *Swanage* (*Inns*: Royal Victoria, a very handsome building with an Ionic front, formerly the Manor House. As a hotel it has a high reputation. It was visited by Her Majesty, then Princess Victoria, in 1835, and subsequently by the Prince of Wales. Ship; Purbeck. Pop. 4158). It may be reached either by steamer from Poole, Bournemouth, or Weymouth; or by omnibus from the Wareham station, from which it is distant 11 m. Its position is most attractive, and being open to the S.E. it is one

of the coolest of our summer watering-places. The views from it are varied and extensive, embracing the Hampshire coast in long perspective, and the Isle of Wight, 15 m. distant. The sands are level and firm, and the bathing is excellent. There is a good pier, begun in 1859, at which the steamers touch at all states of the tide. Its quietness and the absence of the ordinary crowd of excursionists render Swanage a favourite resort for many leading professionalists during the long vacation. It is thus described by Prof. Kingsley:—

“At the east end of the Isle of Purbeck is a little semicircular bay, its northern horn formed by high cliffs of white chalk, ending in white isolated stacks and peaks, round whose feet the blue sea ripples for ever. In the centre of the bay the softer ‘wealden beds’ have been worn away, forming an amphitheatre of low sand and clay cliffs. The southern horn is formed by the dark limestone beds of the Purbeck marble. A quaint old-world village slopes down to the water over green downs, quarried, like some gigantic rabbit-burrow, with the stone-workings of seven hundred years. Landlocked from every breeze, huge elms flourish on the dry sea-beach, and the gayest and tenderest garden flowers bask under the hot stone walls. A pleasanter spot for summer sea-bathing is not to be found eastward of the Devon coast than Swanage.”

There are good lodging-houses in the outskirts, opening on the green hill-side, as well as a new suburb, styled Mowlem Park. This derives its name from the late John Mowlem, Esq., d. 1869, probably a descendant of “Durandus, the king’s carpenter,” named in Domesday, on whom William bestowed the manor of Moleham in Swanage. In Edward I.’s reign one William de Moulham held lands in that manor by the service of the reparation of the great tower at Corfe Castle.

The late Mr. Mowlem raised himself from the humble position of a quarryman to a leading position in London as a paving contractor, and became a great benefactor to his native place. The *Mowlem Institution*, erected 1863, with reading and lecture rooms, at the N. end of the town, was founded by him. A pillar has been erected close to this building to commemorate Alfred’s victory over the Danish fleet in 877, when 120 of the marauders’ ships were driven on Peveril reef, and wrecked there. At the S.W. extremity of the town, near the pier, stands a Gothic Clock-tower, transferred hither from the Surrey side of London Bridge, where it had been erected as a memorial to the Duke of Wellington, but removed for railway requirements. It was presented by Mowlem & Co. to Mr. Docwra of the Grove, who re-erected it in his grounds.

The old town of Swanage consists chiefly of one long narrow street of grey stone-roofed houses, climbing the slope of the hill which forms the southern horn of the bay. It stands precisely over the outcrop of the upper Purbecks, which run out to sea eastward in a low headland and double reef known as *Peveril Point and Ledge*, shutting in Swanage Bay on the S. The bay sweeps in a noble curve $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. across, retiring about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland, under the low cliffs of the *Hastings Sand*. Its northern horn is formed by the huge chalk headland of *Ballard Head*, soaring in perpendicular precipices from the sea, and reaching an elevation of 584 ft. at the highest point of the down above. The N.E. angle of the chalk promontory is called *Handfast Point*. At the extremity of the chalk are the insulated lofty fragments known as *Old Harry and his Wife* and the *Pinnacle Rock*, and nearer Swanage a large cavern called the *Parson’s Barn*. “As big as a parson’s barn” is a Dorsetshire proverb.

The *Ch.* was a plain solid building of great antiquity, and little pretensions to beauty. The body was rebuilt in 1860, but the rude early tower remains. Near it a tablet on a cottage commemorates a night passed beneath its roof by John Wesley, Aug. 13, 1787. Dr. Andrew Bell, the introducer of the "Bell system of Education," was rector of Swanage 1801-1816.

Numerous quarries of Purbeck marble are worked in the hill above the town. The stone is reached by a slanting pit about 120 ft. deep, which allows of the ingress of the quarryman by a flight of rude steps, and of the egress of the stone by a slide. Each quarry is generally worked by two men, who are employed either in excavating the stone, or in shaping it in the sheds. The Purbeck strata are estimated at a total thickness of 275 ft., of which the upper 55 are useful stone. The top vein of all, called *Purbeck marble*, is almost entirely composed of a small freshwater shell (*Paludina carinifera*) cemented by lime, and interstratified with the upper *Cypris* clays and shales. The marble, and the far more abundant building-stone, is carried for shipment to Swanage, where it is piled in the unsightly "bankers" which encumber the shore, and is embarked by the aid of a small tramway and pier.

Few places possess a more interesting neighbourhood than Swanage. In the vicinity of the town are *Durlston Head*, *Tilly Whim*, the *Dancing Ledge*, and numerous caverns; and at distances suitable for excursions, *Studland*, 3 m., and the *Agglestone*; *Corfe Castle*, 6 m., and *Creech Barrow*; *St. Aldhelm's Head*, 6 m.; *Gad Cliff* and *Worbarrow Bay*, 12 m.; *Lulworth Castle*, 13 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 15 m.

At *Godlingstone*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. are the remains of an old house of some interest, much of which has been recently pulled down.

3 m. N. of Swanage, on the other side of the high chalk down, is the pretty little village of *Studland*, embowered among lofty elms, reached by a charming walk over Ballard Down. The plastic clay and other tertiaries of the Bagshot series crop out here in rough slopes covered with profuse vegetation. The climate is so mild that myrtles and other tender shrubs and plants brave the winters, and attain a large size. The sea has eaten out a pretty little bay in the friable strata, bounded by low red cliffs, which terminate S. in the bastion-like promontory called the *Nodes*, the northern angle of Handfast Point. The village communicates with the shore by a picturesque little chine, excavated by a small stream that trickles through it. Studland Church is a very interesting example of a small Norman parish church, without additions or alterations of any moment, and very carefully restored. It consists of a nave, chancel, and a tower between the two (as at *Iffley*, *Ticken-cote*, &c.). The tower has been strengthened by buttresses, which add to its picturesque effect. It now has a packsaddle roof, but it is evident that it has been shortened, and that the present covering is not original. The nave preserves on both sides its corbel table of grotesque heads, and figures, some not very decent. Some of the windows have been enlarged, and the E. window is a plain one of 3 lights, but the side windows of the chancel and the N. windows of the nave are the original slits. The S. door is Norman and shafted. The tower is supported on boldly-moulded arches with curiously-carved capitals, and both it and the chancel are groined. Some of the capitals under the tower, with deeply incised stars and graceful leaves at the angles, deserve notice. The chancel has a chamber above the groining, as at *Tickencote* and *Darenth* (see

Hdbks. to Rutland and to Kent). The font is large and cup-shaped, perfectly plain, coeval with the church. In the churchyard are some fine cypresses and some ancient yews. There was anciently a castle here. King John landed in Studland bay in 1205, having given up an intended expedition to France, and again in 1213.

1 m. N.W. of Studland, and about the same distance from the nearest point of the shore on the rough moor is

The *Agglestone* (from Halig-stan, Saxon for Holy-stone), or *Devil's Nightcap*, as it is sometimes called. It is an isolated block of ferruginous sandstone, in the form of an inverted cone, perched on the summit of a hillock, elevated more than 70 ft. above the surrounding heath, where the moor dips to the low ground which borders Poole harbour. It is a most singular object, as it stands out against the sky, and tradition, as usual, attributes it to Satanic agency. It measures $16\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, and 36 ft. by $16\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, and is computed to weigh about 400 tons. On the upper surface are 3 cavities, which may be artificially-formed basins; but whatever use it may have been put to, there is no doubt that it is the work of nature, and rests in its original position, the earth which once surrounded it having been removed, partly by the action of the weather, partly perhaps by design. The moor is a good botanizing ground, where may be found the large blue Gentian, *Gentiana pneumonanthe*, the Bog Asphodel, Cotton-grass, Bog Pimpernel, and the Sundews. On the cliff near the Preventive Station grows the rare grass *Cynodon dactylon*.

Swanage is the best place from which to commence the exploration of the coast of Purbeck, of equal interest to the geologist and to the lover of fine rock scenery. Mr. P. Brannon's 'Guide to Purbeck,' or

Mr. Damon's 'Geology of Weymouth,' will direct him to the various strata. For fuller details the student should consult Professor E. Forbes' 'Memoir on the Purbeck Beds,' and the Rev. O. Fisher's 'Purbeck Strata,' in the Cambridge Philosophical Transactions.

[From Swanage to Lulworth Cove is a delightful walk of 16 m. by *Tilly Whim*, *Seacombe*, *St. Aldhelm's Head*, *Encombe* (3 hours), and one hour besides for seeing the *Chapel* at the Head. From Encombe Bay, a long terrace above *Kimmeridge*, crossing the valley, which runs from sea to sea between Swanage and Worbarrow, by *Tyneham* up to *Flowers Barrow* (2 hours). *Flowers Barrow* by *Arish Mell* up *Bindon Hill* to Lulworth Cove ($1\frac{1}{4}$ hours), where is a neat little hotel, at which good refreshments can be procured, and a vehicle hired to take you to Wool Station, 6 m.; or, during the summer, the steamer may be caught to take you to Weymouth. (O. W. F.)]

Leaving Swanage a road leads up the hill across *Sentry Field* to Peveril Point, with its ledge of synclinal rocks forming a double reef, along the edge of the cliffs of *Durlston Bay*, where nearly all the Purbeck beds appear successively rising up southwards from the beach to the middle of the bay, with the stone-pits on our rt., to

1 m. *Durlston Head*, a lofty down descending to a cliff of Portland oolite. If the tide permits it, you should descend to the shore and examine an arched band of rock to the rt., and the parallel beds of limestone curved and contracted like the bark of old trees. The tide hurries round the point with rapidity. A gorge between Durlstone Height and Round Down leads to

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Tilly Whim*, a cliff quarry, said to derive its name from the person by whom it was opened and worked,

in defiance of the advice of experienced quarrymen, who warned him of the increasing hardness of the stone. The scene is romantic. A hollow, descending from the hills, conducts the stranger to a terrace, hewn midway on the cliff, about 30 ft. above the sea. Opening to this terrace are capacious chambers, remarkable for their flat and solid roofs, and entered by square apertures, reminding one of Egyptian or Cyclopean architecture. The black cliffs, grandly divided into enormous cubes, are of Portland oolite capped by Purbeck limestone. At some distance from this spot we pass two smaller cliff quarries now at work. Immediately W. of the furthest is

2 m. the *Dancing Ledge Quarry*, which "may be considered as one of the best types of the Purbeck Portland quarries" (*P. Brannon*), containing fine specimens of ammonites from 18 in. to 30 in. in diameter, and of the *Ostrea gigantea*. The quarry takes its name from the *Dancing Ledge*, a beach of solid stone, descending at a gentle inclination to the sea, which here breaks with a lively motion, *dancing* up the ledge. It is the floor of a quarry, about 150 ft. in length by 50 in breadth, abutting on a cliff which has been worked back in the form of an amphitheatre. E. and W. rises a magnificent coast—huge piles of stone, which re-echo with the thunder of the waves.

West of the *Dancing Ledge* are busy quarries, with cranes perched on the cliff for lifting the stone into the vessels. After rounding a hill-spur we descend into *Seacombe*, where a fertile green valley winds among the hills towards the village of *Worth Matravers*, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Swanage, the *Ch.* of which, restored by the Earl of Eldon, is of considerable interest. The nave and tower and S. doorway and chancel arch are enriched Norm., the chancel E.E. In the churchyard is the tomb of Benjamin Jesty, of Downshay, the first known practiser

of vaccination, "who, from his strength of mind, made the experiment from the cow on his wife and 2 sons in 1774." *Downshay*, a small 17th-century house of the Dollings, is a rather picturesque building a little further inland. A little W. of Seacombe, towards Winspit, occurred the melancholy wreck of the *Halsewell*, East Indiaman, bound for Bengal, Jan. 6, 1786, with the loss of 168 souls, 82 being saved by the exertions of the neighbouring quarrymen. The graves of some of the drowned may still be seen on the little patch of flat ground where the cliffs divide. Rounding the boldly advancing hill of *Eastman*, we reach *Winspit quarry*, situated on the E. face of *St. Aldhelm's Head*, consisting of a terrace and numerous subterranean chambers. Above it the path rises rapidly to the cape, and commands a fine view of the coast and sloping downs which have been traversed from Swanage. Looking back eastwards, the lofty arch of *Connaught's Hole* will be observed E. of the *Dancing Ledge*.

3 m. *St. Aldhelm's Head* was so named after the first bishop of Sherborne. This promontory is 440 ft. in height, and is crowned by an ancient chapel or chantry, in which prayers were said for the safety of mariners passing this dangerous shore, while the roof carried a beacon light. It is a small square stone building, the vaulted roof supported by a central pillar from which spring four intersecting semicircular arches. The entrance is a Norman doorway, and the window a slit in the wall. Since its restoration by the Earl of Eldon, by whom a Norman font was presented, evening service is celebrated here during the summer. On the face of the promontory are exhibited in section the *Portland limestone*, the *Portland sand*, and the *Kimmeridge clay*; the first forming the precipice, the second the long slope, and the third the base, which is, however, concealed beneath the débris of the

cliff. The view is superb, the eye ranging down a coast unsurpassed for variety. The colossal profile of Gad Cliff will tempt every visitor to prolong his ramble.

W. of this headland the coast, passing from the limestone to the sand and clay, assumes a new character. It dives at once to a deep valley, and then rises in *Emmit Hill* to a height of 250 ft., forming a range of ivy-mantled ragged precipices. Long dark slopes, covered with fragments of fallen stone, descend from these walls to the sea, with intervening channels of trickling streams, for ever busy in the work of destruction. The path winds along the undercliff to a very pretty little bay called *Chapman's Pool*, from which rises a towering height of Portland sand, with alternate layers of sand and stone, the Kimmeridge clay appearing below, containing beds of bituminous shale.

The undercliff ceases at the W. end of *Egmont Bight*, where the drainage of the valley of *Encombe* reaches the sea at *Freshwater*, in a small cascade; and a flight of steps leads from the private grounds of *Encombe*, the seat of the Earl of Eldon, to the beach. Near this spot the W. India mail packet *Tyne* was stranded on her homeward voyage, Jan. 13, 1857. No lives were lost, and ultimately the vessel was got safely off. The house, long and low, and of no architectural beauty, is situated about half-way up the green valley, which from its fertility is commonly known as "the Golden Bowl." The planting has been judicious, and produces a good effect in spite of the strong S.W. winds. Two pieces of water form very pretty objects from the house and grounds. An obelisk which forms a conspicuous object in the view was erected by Lord Chancellor Eldon to his hardly less distinguished brother, Lord Stowell. *Encombe*, held at one time by the Abbey of Shaftesbury, came in the reign of

Edward VI. to the Cullifords, from whom it passed, 1734, to Mr. John Pitt, who built the house, and whose son sold it, 1807, to Lord Chancellor Eldon. The place is full of memories of the great statesman.

"*Encombe*," writes Lord Campbell, "became a very dreary abode to Lord Eldon in the latter years of his life. His sporting days were over; he had but little interest in gardening or farming; and his only reading, besides the newspaper, was a chapter in the Bible. His mornings he spent in an elbow-chair by the fire-side in his study—called his *shop*—which was ornamented with portraits of his deceased master, George III., and his living companion, Pincher, a poodle dog."

Almost on the summit of the high ridge, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., is the little village of *Kingston*, with a very conspicuous Ch. of very unusual sumptuousness, erected at the sole cost of the present Lord Eldon, from the designs of Mr. Street, 1880. It is a cruciform structure in the E.E. style, with a lofty central tower and apsidal chancel, and a western narthex. The clustered pillars of the nave, the piers of the crossing and all the string-courses and corbels throughout the building are of polished Purbeck marble from Lord Eldon's own quarries. The transepts and chancel are vaulted in stone, all the windows are filled with stained glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. The stalls, iron screens, and every part of the furniture were designed by the architect and executed in the best manner possible. To the S.W. is the parsonage, a building of much architectural character. The former ch. which still stands, was built in very meagre Perp. by Lord Chancellor Eldon, from the designs of his son-in-law, Mr. Repton. Here he was buried, Jan. 26, 1838, in the vault he had constructed for his beloved "Bessy." The Ch. contains a monument to him, with a

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likeness by Chantrey, and others to Lady Eldon, their two sons, and their grandson the second Lord Eldon. A little to the N.E. of Kingston, at *Scowles*, now a dairy-house of E. Lynch farm, are some interesting remains of a 13th-cent. residence.

The next valley to Encombe is that of *Kimmeridge*; in a retired nook, overhung with trees, stands *Smedmore*, formerly the seat of the Clavells, and now of their descendant, Lieut.-Col. G. P. Mansel. Part of the house is old, and was perhaps built by Sir W. Clavell (d. 1643). The remains of an old house at *Little Kimmeridge* have been destroyed.

Between Encombe and Gad Cliff the hills receding form an amphitheatre, enclosing the vale of *Kimmeridge*, which gives name to the *Kimmeridge clay* series. Its dark blue beds are seamed by limestone, some strata of which abound in bituminous shale, quarried under the name of *Kimmeridge coal*. It is a combination of bitumen with clay, and burns with a bright flame, emitting considerable heat, but also a disagreeable sulphureous smell. The products of its distillation are a volatile mineral oil, grease, asphaltum, &c. More than one company has been formed to utilise this formation, but without any satisfactory commercial results. Here also are found, about a foot below the surface of the soil, particularly in the neighbourhood of *Smedmore*, and elsewhere in the Isle of Purbeck, small disks of shale known as *Kimmeridge coal-money*. This name has been given under the popular idea that they were the coins or amulets of the old inhabitants, but they have been satisfactorily proved to be merely refuse pieces thrown aside from the lathe by the fabricators of beads, bracelets, and other ornaments for the Roman population. In 1839 bracelets made of this coal, and evidently turned, were discovered in a Romano-British burial-place at *Dorchester*; and similar ornaments

have been frequently discovered elsewhere. The female skeletons found in the cemetery at *Jordan Hill*, near *Weymouth*, frequently wore armlets of *Kimmeridge jet*.

At the eastern turn of the bay rises the bold bluff of *Hen Cliff*, surmounted by a look-out tower. E. of the Coastguard houses are the terraces where the coal is extracted, with a small pier for its shipment, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland the village of *Kimmeridge*, with its little *Ch.*, the Norm. door and bell-gable of which deserve notice. The windows and roof are modern. From the low point of this bay the land rapidly rises to the bold hill known as *Tyneham Cap*, above the ledges of *Broad Bench*.

2 m. *Gad Cliff*, the thin edge of a steep hill, cut vertically at a height of above 500 ft., with jagged precipices, overhanging a tangled undercliff, and the débris of the rocks, among which lies a noble specimen of a fossil tree of the order *Cycadææ*. From this the path rapidly descends to

1 m. *Worbarrow Bay*, a scene of surpassing beauty, and unique in many respects. The sea has here broken through the whole series of Purbeck strata to the flinty chalk, here nearly vertical, thus exposing in each side of the bay similar sections of all the strata. It is 1 m. in width, and compassed by cliffs, which exhibit a number of striking contrasts in their colour, height, and structure. Where the chalk hills have been thus worn into, the cliffs are very high, in two points reaching an elevation of 500 ft. The oolitic strata form high rocks at the entrance of the bay, very highly inclined, and bent and broken in the most fantastic manner. To the W. the cliffs are cleft to the sea by *Arish Mell Gap*, where there is a miniature bay, and a view through the opening of the park and castle of *Lulworth*. The various strata of the isle of Purbeck, spread at Swanage over a dis-

tance of more than 2 m., converge as they run westward, and are here so compressed that they all appear in the small compass of *Worbarrow Tout*, the bluff promontory at the E. point formed of Portland and Purbeck limestone, darkly coloured and contorted; adjoining it are the yellow sands of the wealden, forming low cliffs which terminate the long valley of Swanage. Immediately below the Tout, E., is the picturesque little inlet of *Punfel's Cove*.

The most striking feature of this beautiful bay is the gigantic chalk bluff known as *Rings Hill* or *Flower's Barrow*, the W. termination of the ridge of downs that insulates S. Purbeck, uprearing its cliffs of pearly whiteness vertically lined with black layers of flint to a height of 500 ft. The summit commands a most enchanting view of the coast from Portland to St. Aldhelm's Head. It is crowned by an ancient earthwork containing 5 or 6 acres, formed by 3 ramparts and ditches, partly destroyed by the falling of the cliff. Its name was absurdly derived by Hutchins from a supposed Roman officer named Florus; but the camp is Celtic. To the E. of Flower's Barrow is the part of the bay known as *Tyneham Cove*, where the long valley of Purbeck comes down to the sea. It takes its name from the pretty little village of *West Tyneham*, standing a little inland and commanding an unsurpassed prospect of the sea between the heights of Flower's Barrow and Worbarrow Tout. *Tyneham House* (Rev. John Bond) is a fine old mansion built by H. Williams, 1567-1582, but disfigured by modern alterations. The *Ch.*, nearly rebuilt by the late Rev. W. Bond, contains a curious monument, painted and gilt, to John Williams, d. 1589. To the W. of Flower's Barrow the ground suddenly dips down to Hawcombe Bottom, and as suddenly rises again in the chalk headland of *Culver*, 200 ft. high, advancing into the

middle of the bay, the base of which is worn by the waves into deep caverns, with dark mouths. Beyond this is another great break in the chalk ridge known as *Arish Mell Gap*, up which the rich woods and grey towers of *Lulworth Castle*, and *Lulworth Ch.* form a picture not soon to be forgotten. Bindon Hill succeeds with its white chalk precipices, followed by low cliffs of wealden sand. The western horn of the bay, like the eastern, is formed of a contorted mass of Portland oolite. Huge wave-worn fragments of the wall of stone which once connected the two extremities of the bay and protected the softer strata within, form a chain of insulated rocks, gradually lessening as they approach the centre of the bay. These are known as the *Mewps Rocks*, and from them the western half of the inlet is often called *Mewps Bay*.

1½ m. inland of Arish Mell Gap stands *Lulworth Castle* (Reginald J. Weld, Esq.) (3½ m. S. of Wool Station, but less by pleasant footpaths), a feudal-looking pile, situated in a park 5 m. in circumference, and in a most secluded locality. E. of it, for 10 m., extends a heath only terminated by the sea, and S. a naked range of chalk downs, abutting on one of the most unfrequented but romantic coasts in the kingdom. There was a castle at West Lulworth in early times, which was taken in 1142 by the Earl of Gloucester and occupied for the Empress Maud. East Lulworth belonged to the ancient family of Newburgh, and descended by marriage to Thos. Howard, 3rd son of the 3rd duke of Norfolk, created Viscount Howard of Bindon, and thence to his kinsman the E. of Suffolk, the builder of Audley End, and thence by sale to the Welds, 1641. The present castle was begun by Thos. Lord Bindon, c. 1600, and completed by Humphry Weld, fifty years later. It was garrisoned in the Civil Wars for Charles I., but

in 1644 was occupied by the Parliamentary soldiers, who committed sad havoc on the lead and metal work. It was constructed chiefly from the ruins of Bindon Abbey. In form an exact cube, it is flanked at each corner by a lofty round tower, and ornamented on its principal front, which is of Chilmark stone, by the arms of the Weld family, and by statues of Music and Painting, and of two Roman worthies. The interior contains some family portraits by *Lely*, and others in pencil by *Hussey* (d. 1788), an amateur artist who drew the human head by the musical scale, and was a native of Marnhull, in this county (Rte. 20). Among those in oil is one of Sir John Weld, who raised a troop for Charles I.; in the hall is an eagle shot in the park. The *Chapel* is a modern building detached from the castle. At Lulworth is preserved the famous "Lutterell Psalter," executed for Sir Geoffrey Louterell, temp. Edward III., so remarkable for the illustration of domestic manners and customs afforded by the illuminations. In 1794 some refugee French monks of the Trappist order were sheltered by Mr. Weld, and founded a monastery dedicated to St. Susanna, at the foot of Flowers Barrow where they remained till 1817, when they returned to France.

Lulworth has on several occasions been honoured by the presence of royalty. It was visited by James I. in 1615, when the plague raged in London; by Charles II., 1665; and by George III. and the whole royal family, who came here by sea from Weymouth, Aug. 3, 1789. In 1830 it afforded an asylum to Charles X. and his family, when driven from his throne.

The woods are extensive. The lake lies 1 m. N., adjoining the great heath which stretches towards Wareham. It is a pleasant solitude. A walk runs around it; and it possesses a mimic fort and harbour. The *Church* of East Lulworth was rebuilt 1864,

with the exception of the tower, the belfry story of which is curious, and the Weld monuments have been removed to the vaults beneath the chapel. It however retains some memorials of the family, including that of Sir John Weld, 1674, in which is set forth a genealogy, tracing his descent from Edrike the *Wild*, a nephew of the Duke of Mercia, the son-in-law of King Ethelred.

Returning to the coast, the walk to *West Lulworth* lies along the continuation of the chalk-ridge known as the *Swinesback* or *Bindon Hill*, presenting a rugged face of oolitic precipices to the sea, called the *South Rocks*, where a bed of fossilized cycadaceous trees, similar to those to be seen in Portland, will arrest the attention of the geologist. On the hill above Lulworth Cove, E., is *Little Bindon Abbey*, a small desecrated E.E. chapel, marking the original site of the monastery near Wool (p. 201). From this point we rapidly descend to

4 m. *Lulworth Cove* (*Hotel, Cove Hotel*); one of the most romantic inlets on the coast. It is a little circular basin eaten out by the sea in the soft strata of the Hastings sands, encircled by towering cliffs, and entered by a narrow opening between two bluffs of Portland stone, the remnants of the solid barrier which once shut it in, but has fallen before the incessant action of the watery hammers. It exhibits a section of all the beds between the chalk and oolite, and owes its peculiar form to the unequal resistance of these strata to the action of the sea. The perpetually moving water, having once pierced the cliff of stone, soon worked its way deeply into the softer sand and chalk.

West Lulworth, situated in a retired valley under Bindon Hill, has a modern *Ch.*, built 1870, a mile from the sea.

Starting for a ramble W. of *Nelson Fort*, the coast-guard signal-station at the entrance of Lulworth Cove, we soon reach

Stair Hole, an oblong chasm walled off by a rock of Portland limestone from the sea, which flows into it at high water through chinks and caverns. It strikingly shows the manner in which the neighbouring coves have been formed, the waves here leaping through the breached barrier of limestone to attack the sand and chalk. It is a wild and interesting spot, with its huge ribs of contorted stone. Beyond it is *Dungy Head*, alive with rabbits, and then *Oswald*, or *Horsewall Bay*, with beach of shingle, and the magnificent chalk escarpment of *Marm Tout*. These are terminated W. by a low but most picturesque promontory formed by vertical and curved bands of limestone variously coloured, called *Tongue Beach*. Crossing the neck of this point, we find

Durdle Bay, and the *Barn-Door*, an archway 30 ft. high, piercing a wall of rosy rock, on whose ledges, says Gosse, nestle the guillemot, the auk, the puffin, the shag, and one or two kinds of gulls. *Swyre Head* rises from this bay to a height of 669 ft., its slopes of turf cresting a vertical chalk cliff, on each side of which they descend to within a few feet of the beach. At the W. end of the bay is *Bat's Corner*, tunnelled by a cavern, and a pinnacle of chalk, called the *Butter Rock*, standing detached among the waves. The next bay terminates with

Whitenore, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from W. Lulworth, and the last chalk cliff on the S.W. coast of England, except Beer Head between Lyme and Sidmouth. Immediately W. of it is an undercliff, and, in *Ringstead Bay*, low cliffs of *Kimmeridge clay*, which in 1824 spontaneously ignited and continued to moulder for some years.

West Lulworth is 10 m. from Weymouth, and 6 m. from the Wool Stat., 14 m. from Weymouth and 13 m. from Dorchester by carriage road,

but a pedestrian may do it in 10 m. A steamer runs from Weymouth to Lulworth several times a week during the summer months.

ROUTE 18.

THE ISLE OF PORTLAND.

The *Isle of Portland* (Pop. 10,046) is reached from Weymouth by frequent steamers from the pier-head, or by a branch of the G. W. Rly. $4\frac{3}{4}$ m. in length, with an intermediate stat. at *Rodwell*, in the outskirts of the town, where the rly. passes through a Romano-British cemetery, in which many urns and other interesting objects were discovered. There is also communication by road, crossing a long timber bridge on the site of a former ferry crossing the *East Fleet*.

Portland is connected with the mainland by the long narrow isthmus of the

Chesil Bank. This may be likened to a string stretched from Portland to the mainland at Abbotsbury, $10\frac{3}{4}$ m. distant, being separated from the land so far by a narrow channel called the *Fleet*. It is a compact ridge of shingle, in places mixed with sand, and slopes steeply on each side to the water, its extreme height at its S.E. end being 37 ft., and its width 200 yards at Portland and 170 at Abbotsbury. "The pebbles forming this immense barrier are chiefly

siliceous, from the chalk hills to the W., all loosely thrown together. The fundamental rocks on which the shingle rests are found at the depth of a few yards only below the level of the sea. The formation of that part of the bar which attaches Portland to the mainland may have been due to an original shoal or reef, or to the set of the tides in the narrow channel, by which the course of the pebbles which are always coming from the W. has been arrested.”—*Lyell*. Another singular fact is the gradual increase of the size of the pebbles from W. to E. as we go farther from the quarter which supplied these, the bank commencing at Bridport with sand, and terminating at Portland with stones 3 or 4 inches in diameter. “The true explanation of this phenomenon is doubtless this: the tidal current runs strongest from W. to E., and its power is greater in the more open channel or farther from the land; the size of the masses being carried from the W. and thrown ashore being largest where the motion of the water is most violent.”—*Lyell*. Throughout this distance of 17 m. the change is gradual, but regular; so that smugglers, landing on the bank in thick weather or a dark night, can determine the exact spot without any difficulty. In heavy gales from the westward this long line of desolate beach is lashed by a frightful sea, the slope being abrupt, and the water deep. Shipwrecks are unfortunately too frequent, and upon such occasions it is a work of considerable danger to proceed to the assistance of the stranded vessel, the landward side being swept by heavy showers of shingle. The shipwrecked sailor has indeed but a poor chance of saving his life. Owing to the steepness of the bank, the broken water rolls back with resistless force, springing high into the air as it meets the advancing wave; and the strength of the under-current alone

will frustrate the efforts of the strongest swimmer. Such melancholy scenes have been repeatedly witnessed, and hence the bay has acquired its dismal name, *Deadman's Bay*. In 1588 two of the treasure galleons of the Spanish Armada went on shore here. Ingots of silver have been from time to time found imbedded in the blue clay of the beach below the shingle after a storm. In the great storm of Nov. 1824 the bank was considerably lowered, shingle to the amount of many hundred tons having been thrown to the land side. On that occasion an Ordnance sloop, laden with stores, was carried by a wave to the very top of the ridge, where the crew disembarked and walked into Portland. They afterwards launched her down the other side into the Fleet, and thus she is said to have gone round the peninsula by land.

The *Isle of Portland* is a rocky peninsula, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. in width, and 9 m. in circumference, projecting into the Channel, in the shape of a tongue or beak, from which configuration its southern extremity is known as the *Bill of Portland*. The peninsula is one solid mass of oolitic limestone, and presents an even surface, which slopes southward in a long inclined plain from a height of 495 ft. at the *Verne* to 30 ft. above the sea-level. The cliffs that form its sides, exposed to the fury of the waves, are extremely rugged.

Portland offers a peculiarly interesting field for geological research in its unique dirt-bed and fossil trees, and its alternations of marine and fresh-water deposits. That Portland was an ancient British stronghold is proved by the double foss-way, encircling the Verne Hill, which could clearly be traced before the construction of the new fortifications. It was subsequently occupied by the Romans, and has been identified with the Vindilis of the Itinerary, and the

Vindelia of Richard of Cirencester. A Roman road led from Cheswell to the Verne, and at the Grove was a cemetery destroyed by the new fort; in which a large plain stone sarcophagus, preserved in the fort, was found, and some good specimens of Samian ware. There was also a Romano-British cemetery at Southwell, where fibulæ, coins, and pottery have been found.

Portland is asserted to have been the first place on which the Danes landed in this country in the reign of Beorhtric of Wessex, at the end of the eighth century, and in the year 1404 it was selected by the French for invasion, but their attempt proved unsuccessful. At the commencement of the Great Rebellion, Portland was seized by the Parliamentary forces, who garrisoned the island in 1643, and made it a depot for their plunder after the capture of Wardour Castle. This, however, together with the island itself, soon fell into the hands of the Royalists, who captured the stronghold by a stratagem. A party of horsemen with the Parliamentary colours flying galloped towards the castle, crying out that they were pursued by the King's troops who, with the Earl of Caernarvon, were by design close in their rear; the gates were opened to them, and, having thus gained an entrance, they speedily overpowered the garrison. The Portlanders were *Baleares*, or slingers of stones, in ancient times. They are a sturdy race, and long maintained themselves distinct from the people of the adjacent country, intermarrying, and handing down from father to son many curious customs; but they are now less exclusive, and their customs are in great measure discontinued. The island is famous for its building-stone, and for a breed of small black-faced sheep well known for their excellent flavour as Portland mutton. The island is all one parish, but it is divided into

8 hamlets, viz., *Chesilton* and *Fortune's Well* (N.), and *Castleton*, on the E. coast, which are tolerably built, and form a striking contrast to the rest. In the centre of the isle is *Reforne*, with the parish church of St. George, in the Wreanean style (the other church is at Fortune's Well); *Easton*, *Wakeham*, and *Weston*—where is the *Avalanche Memorial Ch.* of St. Andrew, erected in 1879, to commemorate the captain, passengers and crew of the "Avalanche," lost by collision with the "Forest" Sept. 11. 1877—stretch across the centre; and *Southwell* is near the S. extremity; all these are shapeless collections of stone hovels, with here and there a chapel of the approved Zion or Bethesda type. The *Prison* is on the E. coast, at a treeless place known as the *Grove*; *Pennsylvania Castle* is a mile lower down; on the same side, the pretty dell of *Church Hope* adjoins; *Cave Hole* is further S., and the *High* (W.) and *Low Lighthouses* (E.) are very near the S. extremity—the *Bill*. A walk along the W. coast gives a good view of the quarries which are worked by free labour.

Portland Castle, a block house, was built by Henry VIII., 1520, after his return from the "Field of the Cloth of Gold," to protect the coast against a surprise by the French. He granted it in succession to three of his queens—Jane Seymour, Kath. Howard, and Kath. Parr; and in 1588 it was garrisoned in expectation of a landing by the Spanish Armada. During the Rebellion it was several times besieged and taken by the contending parties, once in 1643 by stratagem, as already related, when the Royalists found in it the plunder of Wardour Castle. Col. Wm. Ashburnham was besieged here for 4 months till relieved by the Earl of Cleveland, 1644. The next year, Aug. 23, it was attacked by the Parliamentary forces;

and surrendered Ap. 6, 1646. In 1816 it was granted to the family of Manning, but on the death of the late Capt. Charles Manning it reverted to the Crown. The family pictures and other collections which formerly adorned the interior are now dispersed. On the wainscot of the *Hall*, formerly the guard-room, is the following quaint inscription: "God save Kinge Henri the VIII. of that name, and Prince Edwarde begotten of Queene Jane, my ladi Mari, that godli virgin, and the ladi Elizabeth so towardli, with the kinges honourable counselors."

Chesilton, where is the *Rly. Stat.*, is the first village in Portland. Vehicles may be here obtained for a drive to the Breakwater, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, and round the island, a pleasant excursion of 2 or 3 hours. It straggles up the hill to meet

Fortune's Well (*Inn*: Portland Arms), which occupies the higher ground, and derives its name from a spring which rises behind the inn, 200 ft. above the sea-level. A curious relic of antiquity may be seen at the Portland Arms—the *Reeve Pole*, "a sort of wooden Domesday Book," bearing a record of every estate in the island, and of which a silver model was presented to the Queen by the tenants of the royal manor, 1850. It is referred to as an authority in all questions of manorial dues. From this elevation there is a magnificent view of the Chesil Bank, which appears stretched out in long perspective westward, conducting the eye to the distant heights above Lyme, among which the truncated cone of Golden Cap is conspicuous. Above the village the stony hill attains a height of 490 ft., called the *Verne Hill*, the highest portion of which is occupied by a strong work, called *Fort Victoria*, which its designers intended should as nearly approach impregnability as

could make it. It is surrounded by a dry ditch, for the formation of which upwards of 1,500,000 tons of stone had to be blasted. It is in some parts nearly 200 ft. wide, and displays the strata and faults in beautiful sections. Casemated barracks within will accommodate 3000 men, and the extent of the whole enclosure is 56 acres. Beneath the N.E. face of the fort is a line of works cut on the steep slope of the hill called the *East Weir Batteries*. Two proposed outworks further S. at *Easton* and *Weston*, to mount 30 or more guns a-piece, will strengthen the central fortress of the Verne. Steep roads lead from Fortune's Well to the

Quarries of Portland stone, among enormous heaps of rubbish, the ruins of the overlying useless beds. There are about 100 of these quarries scattered over the island. This famous stone was first brought into repute by Inigo Jones, who selected it for the Banqueting Hall at Whitehall, and from his time employed for most of our great public edifices. One bed of the building or *merchantable* stone, as it is called, extends throughout the island like a floor, at an average depth below the surface of 30 ft. The strata thus excavated are the upper series of the oolitic limestones, and vary in thickness from 7 to 16 ft. They are 6 in number, and are named in a descending order, *top-cap*, *skull-cap*, *roach* (a good stone), *top-bed* (the best of all), *middle* or *curf-bed*, and *bottom-bed*, the last being of inferior quality to the *top-bed*. They lie immediately below the Purbeck beds, one of which, called the *dirt-bed*, contains the trunks of large trees of the fir tribe, now converted into stone, the roots being still fixed in the soil from which they derived their nourishment. In Fortune's Well there is a fine specimen of these silicified trees 20 ft. in height,

placed against the wall of one of the cottages on the rt. as you ascend the hill. The quarries partly belong to the Crown, partly to private firms.

In a *walk or drive round the island* the visitor leaves Chesilton by the road along the E. coast, passing Portland Castle on the l. to

Castleton (Inn: Castle Hotel), where he will observe the *stone-wharf*, from which the vessels engaged in the carrying trade ship their cargoes, and where a pier for the use of the Weymouth steamer has been recently erected. On rt. is the *tram-road*, descending in a straight line the abrupt hill from the quarries. Down this come the loaded waggons by their own weight, their impetus being controlled by the empty cars attached to the other end of the chain, which passes over a huge drum at the top of the incline.

From Castleton the visitor should proceed to the *Portland Breakwater*, a national work, commenced in 1847. The site of Portland Harbour possessed natural advantages which had long been apparent. It was already protected by nature from westerly gales, and needed only a barrier towards the S.E. to render it on all sides secure. The roadstead was capacious, the depth of water ample, and the holding-ground tenacious; the position was intermediate between Portsmouth and Plymouth, and opposite to the French arsenal of Cherbourg, a desideratum in a warlike point of view. It had the advantage of an inner harbour at Weymouth, and of a copious supply of spring water at Portland. Lastly, it was situated under heights covered by large quantities of stone already excavated and thrown aside as useless, but admirably adapted for the construction of a breakwater. The utility of such an undertaking appears to have been first urged upon the Government by a Mr. Harvey, of Weymouth, in the year 1794, with no result; he died in

1821, but Mr. John Harvey, his son, kept the matter before the public. In 1844 a Royal Commission was appointed "to inquire into the most eligible situation for constructing a Harbour or Harbours of Refuge in the Channel," and reported in favour of Portland Bay. The first vote for the work was granted by Parliament in the year 1846; an Act of Parliament was passed in 1847, giving powers to purchase the necessary land, &c.; and the preliminary works were begun in August of that year. The works having been completed, His Royal Highness the late Prince Consort (to whose influence, it is said, is mainly owing the decision of the Government to carry out these works) performed the ceremony of depositing the first stone, weighing nearly 9 tons, 25th July, 1849. Strictly speaking, there are two breakwaters; one connected with the shore, starting about half a mile S.E. of Portland Castle, and running due E. for about 1800 ft.; and the outer, or main, breakwater, which is about 6000 ft. long, is separated from the inner arm by an opening of 400 ft. wide, with a depth of about 45 ft. of water at the lowest tides.

The whole of the stone was obtained from the top of the island, at about a mile from the breakwater; the greater portion was quarried by convicts, who loaded the whole into waggons. These waggons were conveyed by locomotive engines to the top of the inclined planes, then attached to a strong wire rope wound round a drum fitted with powerful screw breaks, and by the force of gravity descended, pulling up the empty waggons from the bottom to be reloaded. Arrived at the bottom, the waggons, a locomotive engine being placed in the rear, were propelled along tramways, and having reached the proper point on the staging, the loads, consisting of several tons, were shot into the sea.

More than 5,600,000 tons of stone have been put into the sea to form this great work; and about 1000 convicts were employed upon it. The portion connected with the shore is crowned by substantial masonry, with a wharf for coaling vessels of the navy. At the extreme end of this arm there is a circular tower, with a fort to carry 9 guns. At the northern extremity of the great breakwater a circular fort has been constructed to carry some of the heaviest guns that have been made.

The total expenditure upon the breakwater works, coaling and watering establishment, jetties, &c., has been about 1,010,000*l.*, an amount which will compare most favourably with the cost of any of our large harbours completed, or in progress.

Portland is now the largest artificial harbour in the kingdom, if not in the world, with a sheltered anchorage of 2107 acres up to low-water line.

From the extent of quarrying, fossils have been found in abundance. Excellent collections may be seen at the engineer's office at the head of the Breakwater, and also in the governor's office at the

Convict Prison.—This has a handsome frontage to the sea. The buildings are mostly of wood or iron, being of a strictly temporary character, and scattered over a large area, the whole being enclosed by a lofty stone wall, guarded at intervals by sentinels in uniform. It is regarded as a model building of the kind, consisting of 8 wings, with Protestant and Roman Catholic chapels within the boundary walls, while on the outside are quarters for the officers and a handsome *Ch.* (St. Peter's) with schools and residence attached, the whole having been erected by convict labour. It accommodates a governor, 2 deputy-governors, 2 chaplains, 5 schoolmasters, and other officers. There are about 1600 convicts, of whom the greater number [*Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.*]

are mostly employed in hewing and dressing the monster blocks of stone used in the various government buildings and works. The establishment numbers about 2600, including warders and their families. The prisoners are treated with uniform kindness, and, while strict discipline is maintained, every effort is made to encourage industry and improvement. They rise at 5 a.m. for the greater part of the year, breakfast at 5.40, and after attending chapel proceed to labour at 7 o'clock. At 11.10 the bell rings to recall from labour, at 11.30 dinners are served out, and at 1 p.m. they again proceed to work and remain at the same till 5.15 p.m. when they return to their cells for the night. From the entrance gate the visitor obtains a view over the southern part of the island, and sees before him the united villages of *Wakeham* and *Easton*. A walk of a few minutes will conduct us to the most romantic spot in Portland, the

Cove of Church Hope, containing *Pennsylvania Castle*, and on a cliff overhanging the sea the ruinous old keep of *Bow and Arrow Castle*. A rugged road leads down to the beach, and about midway is a spring which supplies the inhabitants with water.

Pennsylvania Castle is a modern castellated mansion (Stewart Forbes, Esq.), charmingly placed in a rough dell here descending to the cove. It was built, at a cost of 20,000*l.*, from the designs of the too celebrated James Wyatt, c. 1800, by John Penn, governor of this island, and grandson of the founder of *Pennsylvania*. It is embowered among shrubberies, and contains a collection of Indian and Chinese antiquities. It is not now shown to strangers. Below it are the ruins of the old parish church of the island, ruined by a landslip. From a sea-girt crag rises

Bow and Arrow Castle, a pentagonal tower of rude construction,

commonly said to have been built by William Rufus, situated 300 ft. above the sea, and connected with the mainland by a bridge, the arch of which frames a beautiful view of the blue sea and lofty coast about Lulworth. In the year 1142 Robert Earl of Gloucester took possession of this castle for the Empress Matilda. On the other side of the cove the rocky ground has been broken by a landslide into the most romantic forms.

Continuing our course towards the S. end of the island, the slope of the land brings us nearer and nearer to the level of the sea, the cliffs being hollowed into picturesque caverns. Over the thin roofs of these vaults we unconsciously walk until startled at one spot by a well-like aperture in the path. This is known by the name of

Cave Hole, where the waves may be seen chafing beneath our feet in the calmest weather, but in storms they burst upwards through the opening with a sound like thunder, and scatter the salt spray for many yards round. About a mile beyond it we reach the southern termination of the island, or

Portland Bill, a castellated mass of rocks. Around it is a busy quarry, and at some distance apart the 2 *lighthouses*, the lantern of one 130, and of the other 197 ft. above the level of the sea. In rough weather there is a wild waste of tumbling water off this point. The tide rushes with extraordinary impetuosity between the land and a bank called the *Shambles*, 3 m. S.E., raising a dangerous surf, which is well-known to sailors as the *Race of Portland*.

From this promontory we can return along the western side of the island, an unenclosed sheep-walk, commanding a charming view of the Dorsetshire coast. The botanist may notice by the way *Euphorbia Portlandica* and *Lavatera arborea*, or tree-mallow, and the *Flos Adonis*, or

pheasant's eye. Many bushels of the root of the Arum used to be dug yearly, and after being reduced to powder sold as Portland Arrowroot.

ROUTE 19.

WIMBORNE TO DORCHESTER, BY
CORFE MULLEN, CHARBOROUGH,
BERE REGIS, TOLPUDDLE, PUDDLE-
TOWN.

(Road.)

This road, projected and completed through the instrumentality of J. S. W. S. Erle Drax, Esq. of Charborough Park, in 1841, 2, affords a pleasant drive of 22 m. through a diversified country, with an old church and manor-house well worth visiting every few miles.

Leaving Wimborne, the road crosses the Stour, and traverses the green meadows watered by it, by the side of the Somerset and Dorset Rly. to

2 m. *Corfe Mullen*, the *Ch.* is a low building of red stone with an E. E. chancel (the *Knowle*, J. St. John Coventry, Esq.), where a road strikes off l. to Poole. Passing *Upper and Lower Henbury* (*Henbury House*, formerly the seat of Earl of Strafford, subsequently of C. J. Parker, Esq.) at

3 m. *Bailey Corner*, the road crosses the high road from Poole to Blandford, and leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Sturminster Marshal* (Rte. 20), and passes the long walls and lofty arched gateways, crowned with stags, lions, &c., of

6 m. *Charborough House*, Miss Drax, the ancient seat of the Erles, burnt in the Parliamentary wars, and re-

built by Sir Walter Erle 1720, containing on the ceiling of the staircase a painting of the Judgment of Paris, by *Thornhill*, celebrated in a fulsome poem by Christopher Pitt (rector of Pimperne, Rte. 14). In the park is a tower, erected by Major Drax 1790, and rebuilt 1839 after being struck with lightning, a conspicuous object for miles around, and a small building with an inscription recording that under its roof, in 1686, the plan of the Revolution was concerted. The Erles were a very ancient family, from whom were descended the late Rt. Hon. Sir W. Erle, and his brothers.

Drax was an old Yorkshire family. Col. Drax, an adherent of the King's party in the Civil Wars, retired to Barbadoes 1647, where he married the daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, the proprietor of the island, and amassed a large fortune. One of his descendants, Henry Drax, of Ellerton Abbey, Yorkshire, married the heiress of the Erles, and was made secretary to Frederick, Prince of Wales, 1744.

6½ m. rt. is the little village of *Almer*, with a small old *Ch.* of little interest. Passing 7 m. *Rushmore*, the tiny villages strung like beads on the stream of the Winterbourne, from which they take their names—*Winterbourne Zelston*, *Thomson*, *Anderson*, and *Kingston*—will repay a slight detour.

7 m. *Winterbourne Zelston*, the *Ch.*, rebuilt in a good style, retains its old square tower and some of its windows.

8½ m., *Winterbourne Thomson*, preserves some highly picturesque remains of the manor-house of the Husseys, with a spiral stone staircase and some good plaster ceilings in the upper rooms. The little *Ch.*, rebuilt by Abp. Wake, is quite unworthy of notice.

9 m. rt. at *W. Anderson* is the fine gabled mansion of the Tregonwells, ascribed on slight evidence to Inigo Jones, c. 1622. The miserable and dilapidated small *Ch.* hard by, almost entirely rebuilt at the same time, retains its little E.E. double bell-gable.

1 m. higher up the stream, through pretty meadows, is

W. Kingston, a chapelry of Bere Regis, with a nice little flint *Ch.*, with] N. aisle, good E. E. arcade, a low square tower, well restored by the late Mr. Street.

On the S.E. border of the high table-land above *W. Kingston* are the remains of a British station with tumuli and hut circles. On the slope of the down close to this station is a remnant of the Icknield Street, where Roman and British remains have been discovered. A leaden coffin with a nearly perfect skeleton, with nail-studded *caligæ*, was found near the road to Bere a few years since.

2 m. l. on high ground, at the verge of the picturesque *Bere Wood*, is *Bloxworth*, of which Abp. Morton was once rector, being attainted for high treason in 1461 as one of the adherents of Queen Margaret as "John Morton, late person of Blokesworth." The small *Ch.*, chiefly rebuilt in the 16th cent., incorporates relics of earlier work. In the S. wall are some E.E. windows and a round-headed doorway of the same style; an hour-glass stand is attached to the pulpit. The chancel has been rebuilt and richly decorated as a memorial to the late Rev. G. Pickard-Cambridge of *Bloxworth House*, a fine gabled house of the Savages, now of the Pickard-Cambridges, built 1608. The Rev. O. P.-Cambridge, the rector, is a celebrated entomologist, possessing one of the finest collections of Arachnidæ extant.

At 11 m. the road traverses the large village (once a royal residence and market-town) of *Bere Regis*, on a hill-side above an affluent of the Puddle. To the N. the eye ranges over a wide expanse of bare chalk downs, studded with earthworks and barrows. To the S. is a wide tract of barren heath commanding very extensive and attractive views towards Poole, Corfe, the Isle of Purbeck and Lulworth Cove. From *Blackhill*, crowned with a clump of fir surrounding a trenched barrow, there is a really beautiful prospect. A "menhir" or standing-stone may be seen to the l. of trackway leading to Turner's Puddle. Bere Regis is a place of great antiquity. Bere is a corruption of *Byrig*, A.-S. a "building;" *Regis* being subsequently added to mark it as a royal demesne. Queen Elfrida had a mansion here, to which she retired after the murder of her step-son at Corfe Castle. In later times the royal dwelling was occupied by the ubiquitous John. In a field to the E. of the church are the small remains of the Manor House, on the site of the royal residence. By Henry VIII. the lordship of Bere was granted to the Turbervilles, who had possessed a moiety of it from the time of the Conquest. In common with many of the thatched Dorsetshire villages, Bere has been repeatedly ravaged by fire, especially in 1788, when the Vicarage and more than 40 houses were consumed. The philanthropist may be interested to learn that near Bere is the Dorset Reformatory for boys; while the lover of field sports may care to be informed that at *Hyde*, 2 m. S.E., are Mr. Radclyffe's kennels for the S. Dorset Hunt.

Bere Ch. is a fine architectural study, from the variety of styles. It has been admirably restored by Street, all the windows being filled with excellently-designed stained glass, forming a "Biblia Pauperum," by Hard-

man, well-deserving examination. It is wholly Perp. externally, built of flint and stone, with a stately pinnacled tower (temp. Henry VII.) with canopied niches. Within we find earlier styles. The S. arcade is early Trans.-Norm. The capitals deserve notice. That to the north somewhat later in the style. The timber roof is traditionally said to have been the gift of Cardinal Morton, who was born at Milborne Stileman in this parish, and whose family had a chantry-chapel at the E. end of the N. aisle. It is a gorgeous but hardly beautiful design; rich but clumsy. The chancel has an E.E. piscina. The font is Norm., with intersecting arcades on the bowl. There are several late examples of canopied tombs. Among the vicars were Thomas Bastard, the satirist and epigrammatist, d. 1618, and the Rev. H. Fisher, commemorated on a tiny brass plate, as on the buildings erected from his benefaction at Balliol College, Oxford, by the brief motto, "Verbum non amplius. Fisher."

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. on the extreme point of a high ridge rises *Woodbury Hill*, a circular entrenchment, containing 10 acres, formed by 3 ramparts and ditches. On the W. side are the foundations of a chapel and a spring called the "Anchorite Well." It is annually the scene of *Woodbury Fair*, formerly one of the most famous of the south country fairs, rivalling that of Weyhill (Rte. 3), where the tolls alone brought in 100*l.* a day to the lord of the manor, but now of no great importance. It begins September 18th, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and formerly lasted a whole week. To the E. of this hill is the pretty woodland tract of low oaks, known as *Bere Wood*, through which are charming walks to Bloxworth.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. a pleasant walk over

Black Hill and by deep lanes is *Turner's* (properly, from its ancient owners, *Toner's*) *Puddle*, a tiny hamlet, with an old grey farmhouse and little *Ch.* (partly rebuilt 1759) embowered in trees, on the N. bank of the most uneuphoniously-named *Puddle* or *Piddle*, from which unhappily the string of villages along its banks take their names. There is a fine Norm. font with interlacing work, and some good panelled bench ends.

12 m., a little off the highroad to the l. (reached by a pleasant walk up the stream from *Turner's Puddle*) is *Affpuddle*, a ch. and manor once belonging to Cerne Abbey. The *Ch.*, grouping picturesquely with the old mill, among the trees on the S. bank of the little river, is an interesting small structure, with an E. E. chancel, almost wholly remodelled in the Perp. period, to which the very fine tower belongs. Remark the beautiful E. E. S. door with curious trefoil head and the curious carved pulpit, bearing the Evangelistic symbols and the pelican, and figures in mediæval costumes (which may represent the Evangelists strangely travestied, and S. John the Baptist), "mayd" in 1547 by Thos. Lylynton, a monk of Cerne, who being "honest and conformable," became vicar at the Dissolution. The beautifully-carved benches are also his work, and one in the N. aisle bears the inscription, "Thes seatys were mayd in the yere of oure Lord God mccccxlviii. The tyme of Thomas Lylyngton, Vicar of thys chersch." The whole partake of the Renaissance character. The font is Norman on a modern base. The views from the hills are delightful. *Affpuddle Heath*, S., is covered with multitudes of conical hollows. They were supposed by Mr. Prestwich to be formed naturally, by the loose superincumbent stratum being washed by the rains into the sand-pipes in the chalk below. Others are of opinion that, like the

similar hollows at Pen Pits, they are the sites of the huts of a British village. But the great size of some of these pits contradicts this hypothesis. One known as *Culpepper's Dish*, by the side of the Dorchester road, on the heath between Bryan's Puddle and Moreton is 290 yards in circumference and 47 yards deep, and a second on the other side of the wood called his *Spoon* is nearly as large.

14 m. *Tolpuddle*, takes its distinctive appellation from Thola, wife of Orc, one of Canute's "house-carls," the co-foundress of the monastery of Abbotsbury, on which she bestowed this manor (Rte. 13). The *Ch.*, restored 1855 by Wyatt, with a new chancel, contains traces of all styles, from Norm. downwards. It is well fitted and cared for.

16 m. *Burleston*, united parochially with *Athelhampton* (pronounced Admiston) at which there is a new *Ch.* Left, *Athelhampton Hall* (Mrs. G. J. Wood), one of the best examples of Domestic architecture in the county, probably built by the Martins in the reign of Henry VII. The chief feature is the noble hall, with a grand trefoiled wooden roof and beautiful oriel. The domestic apartments are in a later building set at right angles to the hall, with a beautiful corbelled shaft projecting at the angle. The very picturesque gatehouse has been pulled down, but it has been partially reconstructed.

18 m. *Puddleton*, a large well-built and well-kept village, where the road falls into that from Blandford to Dorchester (Rte. 13), on the river Puddle. The *Ch.* deserves a visit: it consists of a very broad nave with N. aisle, and a S. transeptal chapel opening by a panelled arch, containing a series of fine recumbent cross-legged effigies, unfortunately much mutilated, and other monuments of

the Martin family of Athelhampton, to whom also there are some brasses. The nave has a very fine panelled ceiling of the 15th centy. The tower is Tr.-Norm. patched in Perp. The font, probably Norm., is of a very unusual shape, like a drinking tumbler, covered with trellis-work enclosing vine-leaves. There is a 17th.-century gallery across the W. end. Among the vicars are Dr. Woodroffe, 1673, the second founder of Worcester College, Oxford, and the once notorious Theophilus Lindsay, afterwards minister of the Unitarian Chapel in Essex Street, Strand.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of the ch. is the very interesting Manor House of *Walterston* carefully restored by the Earl of Ilchester, after a fire in 1863. The date 1586 is on the garden front, a beautiful piece of Renaissance work added to an earlier building.

$18\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Troy Town*, a hamlet called from a *maze* or *labyrinth*, corresponding to that already described at Pimperne.

$19\frac{1}{2}$ m. the road crosses *Yellowham Hill*, a picturesque eminence covered with firs and other trees, with deep ferny glades, and, passing the beautiful sloping lawns and fine trees of *Kingston Park*, we reach *Stinsford*, where are some remains of the ancient residence of the Staffords, and by fine avenues of elm and sycamore we enter

22 m. *Dorchester* (Rte. 14).

ROUTE 20.

WIMBORNE TO HIGHBRIDGE, BY
BLANDFORD, STURMINSTER NEW-
TON, STALBRIDGE, TEMPLE COMBE,
WINCANTON, AND GLASTONBURY.
[WELLS].

(*Somerset and Dorset Railway.*)

This very pretty and attractive route ascends the valley of the Stour and its tributary, the Cale, to the watershed near Wincanton, then passing Glastonbury, enters the valley of the Brue, and traversing the wide expanse of peat bogs which stretch between that place and the British Channel, joins the Great Western at Highbridge, and runs on in a branch line to the coast at the little watering-place of *Burnham* (Rte. 21).

Leaving Wimborne, the rly. runs across the green meadows watered by the Stour, passing l. Merly House, and at $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. Corfe-Mullen (*The Knowle*, J. St. John Coventry, Esq.), strikes N.W. to

5 m. *Bailey Gate*, the station for *Sturminster Marshall*, so called from its former possessors, the Pembrokes, Earls Marshal of England. The *Ch.*, restored by Woodyer, has a good low square tower (rebuilt), pinnacles at angles. The square-headed windows in the S. wall, with complex Dec. tracery, and the beautifully-designed E. window deserve notice. The interior has a lofty open screen, and stalled chancel. It contains a brass to Henry Helme, a former vicar (d. 1581). There is a tradition that one of the bells came from the chapel at Knolton, and that the shoes of the horses that brought it to Sturminster were reversed that the track might not be followed in

the snow. The following doggerel is current:

“Knolton bell is stole
And thrown into White Mill hole.”

In the churchyard is the base and much of the shaft of a Perp. cross, and two coffin-lids with incised crosses, one of a former vicar, “Tumba Johannis.” Near the centre of the village are the remains of a 15th-cent. house called the “Minster buildings.” E. on the hills beyond *Sturminster Marshall* are the woods of *Kingston Lacy*, seat of the Bankes family, and the camp of *Badbury Rings*. 1½ m. W. is *Charborough Park* (Miss Erle Drax), with its lofty arched gateways, crowned with stags, lions, &c., its tower on the Mount (Roman) and its paddock of Emus.

To the W. opens the valley of the Winterbourne, with its series of pretty villages and ancient churches (Rte. 19).

6 m. *Shapwick*, to the rt. of the line, has a small but interesting *Ch.*, containing examples of all styles, from Norman onwards. It has recently been admirably restored without injury to its historical character. It has a coved ceiling and very elaborate chancel screen.

Passing close to the small entrenchment of *Crawford Castle*, or *Spetisbury Rings*, an oval British earthwork with a single bank half cut away by the rly. l., we reach

8 m. *Spetisbury Stat.* Here the little stream of the Tarant comes down its pretty valley to join the Stour. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, all but the low square tower. It contains an altar-tomb with Ionic pillars to John Bowyer, 1599. *Crawford Bridge*, at the S. end of the village, is a very ancient bridge of nine arches, mentioned in a charter of Tarent Abbey, 19 Hen. III. In 1506, it being ruinous, forty days' indulgence were granted for its repair. In 1800 *Spetisbury House* became the residence of a society of

English, Augustinian nuns, driven from Louvain by the Revolution, of which Mrs. Stonor of Oxfordshire was the superior. In 1801 these ladies removed to Newton Abbot, and were succeeded by Bridgetines from Lisbon. The villages of this stream will afford material for a very pleasant walk, returning over the downs by *Pimperne* to Blandford Stat. (Route 14, p. 219.) The line reaches

Blandford St. Mary, rt., the birth-place of *Browne Willis*, the antiquary (1682), whose industry may be gathered from the fact that no less than 150 volumes of his MS. topographical collections are now preserved in the Bodleian Library. It is also the burial-place of Governor Pitt (of Pitt-Diamond notoriety) grandfather of the Earl of Chatham, whose father was rector of the parish. His body lies in an aisle, added by him to the parish church. The chancel and tower belong to the original building. The Pitt family resided at the *Down House*, erected by them in a sheltered vale 2 m. from Blandford. It then crosses the Stour, and arrives at

11½ m. *BLANDFORD Stat.* (*Inn*: Crown; Pop. of municipal borough, 1373). *Blandford Forum*, taking its name from being a market situated at one of the chief fords of the Stour, is one of the most cheerful and prosperous-looking towns in the county. It owes its handsome appearance to a disastrous conflagration in 1731, which destroyed nearly the whole town, leaving only 40 houses standing. Not fewer than 14 persons perished in this fire, and several died afterwards from alarm, fatigue, and grief at the destruction of their property. The houses have a certain air of stateliness from their high roofs and ornamented fronts. It is built entirely of red brick, in two main thoroughfares, *East-street* and *Salisbury-street*. These meet in a spacious market-place, terminated at

one end by the church, and at the other by the park of *Bryanston*, which is separated from the street by a light iron fence. The chief manufacture was that of buttons, now discontinued; before the great fire the town was the most celebrated in England for pillow-lace. The manor belongs to the duchy of Lancaster. It was visited by James I. in 1615; and suffered much from its loyalty in the Civil Wars, and was plundered by Major Sydenham in 1644.

Old Aubrey, the gossiping topographer, went to school at Blandford, where, upon play days, he used to visit the shop and furnaces of "Old Harding, the only countrey glasse painter that ever I knew, though before the Reformation there was no county or great town but had glass painters." Harding d. c. 1643, aged 83 or more.

Blandford has produced its full share of eminent men, including various members of the family of *Ryves*: *George Ryves*, warden of New College (d. 1613); *Sir Thomas Ryves*, a famous civilian, who attended Charles I. at the Newport Treaty (d. 1651); and *Bruno Ryves*, chaplain to Charles I., and Dean of Windsor, who assisted Walton in publishing his "Polyglott," and the erroneously reputed author of the 'Querela Cantabrigiensis, d. 1677'; *Thomas Bastard*, the epigrammatist, d. 1618; *Christopher Pitt*, the translator of the 'Æneid' (d. 1748); and *Thomas Creech*, the translator of Lucretius, Theocritus, &c. Natives of Blandford were at the same time primates of England and Ireland—*Wm. Wake*, Abp. of Canterbury (b. 1657); and *Thos. Lindesay*, Abp. of Armagh (b. 1654). It was the birthplace (1785) of one of the ablest and best of modern Dissenters, *J. Angell James*. It gave the title of Marquis to John Churchill, afterwards Duke of Marlborough.

The *Church* is in the semi-classical

style of the last century, with Ionic pillars supporting the ceiling, pronounced by Madame D'Arblay, in 1791, to be "a very pretty edifice of late date where the service was very well performed." The tower is 80 ft. high. Adjoining it, under a portico, is a pump, erected by Mr. John Bastard, 1760, in remembrance of the great fire, and to provide against the recurrence of a similar disaster. It bears an inscription to that effect. An old mansion of red brick, about a gunshot N.E. of the church, was one of the few houses which escaped this conflagration. It is an ancient building, with a high roof and hexagonal chimneys, and a quaint un-English air, which it probably owes to the taste of the high German doctor, *Sagittary*, who lived here. *Ryves' Almshouse*, a handsome brick building, also escaped the fire.

The *Corn Exchange*, behind the Town Hall, is a fine spacious room.

Mr. Durdan's private museum of local antiquities (near the Crown Inn), including bronze and flint weapons, pottery, and personal ornaments from the barrows of the vicinity, especially Hod Hill, is well worth inspection.

Blandford was visited twice by Gibbon, the historian, when Captain of the Hants Militia, in 1760 and 1762. In his autobiography he recalls the attractions of "pleasant, hospitable Blandford"—"our beloved Blandford," though he records with regret that its dissipations interfered with his studies.

On the skirt of the town, beyond East-street, are some remains of *Damory Court*; in the reign of Edward II. the residence of Roger d'Amorie, constable of Corfe Castle, but now a farmhouse. A barn to the E. of it was *St. Leonard's Chapel*, with Perp. windows and doorway, now partly walled up. On this estate stood *Damory's Oak*, a celebrated tree 68 ft. in circumf. at the ground.

During the Rebellion its hollow trunk was inhabited by an old man, who vended beer in it, and after the great fire it afforded a home for a considerable period to a houseless family. In 1703 it was greatly injured by a storm, and in 1755 it was taken down and sold as firewood for 14*l*.

Bryanston, or “Brian’s Town,” takes its name from Brian de Insula, or Lisle, its lord in the time of King John. The estate belonged to the family of Rogers for many generations, and was purchased from them by Sir William Portman, of Orchard-Portman, near Taunton, who took an active part in the suppression of Monmouth’s rebellion, and captured the Duke himself, July 8, 1685. He was one of the earliest of the western landowners to join William of Orange at Exeter, and his adhesion secured the Prince’s interest in Dorsetshire.

The *Ch.* is nearly entirely modern, and contains memorials of the families of Rogers and Portman. There is an epitaph worth deciphering to the wife of Rich. Rogers (d. 1566), and on the pedestal of an ancient font a mutilated inscription marks the resting-place of the heart of Ralph de Stopham, one of the early lords of the manor.

Bryanston House, Lord Portman, is not accessible to strangers. It is a large mansion erected in 1780 from a design by James Wyatt, the chief feature of the interior being an octagonal staircase, in the centre of the mansion, 30 ft. in diameter. In the dining-room is a fine Gainsborough. The park is more than 1 m. in length, and watered by the Stour, which sweeps through it below a beautiful crescent of wood. This is well seen from the bridge, a little distance from the Crown Inn.

[Several fine earthworks are within a ride of Blandford, viz.: rt. of the Sturminster road, *Hod Hill*, 3 m.; and *Hambleton Hill*, 4 m. N.W.; on the old road to Wimborne, *Buzbury*,

2½ m. E., and *Badbury Rings*, 6¼ m. S.E.; and on the lower road to Wimborne, *Spetisbury Ring* or *Crawford Castle*, 3½ m.]

The most interesting place near Blandford is *Milton Abbey*, the seat of Baron Hambro. It is 8 posting miles distant, but a horseman may reach it in 6 (Rte. 14).

Numerous *seats* are scattered among the chalk hills and valleys of this neighbourhood. Among them may be enumerated *Stepleton House* (just E. of Hod Hill), the property of Lord Rivers; *Ranston House* (adjoining Stepleton), Rev. Sir Talbot H. B. Baker, Bart.; *Hanford House*, E. Seymer, Esq.; *Turnworth House* (5 m. N.W., Mrs. Parry Okeden); *Whatcomb House* (by Milton Abbey), J. C. Mansell Pleydell, Esq.; and *Charborough Park* (6 m. on Wareham road), Miss Drax.]

Proceeding on our route up the pretty valley bounded by a bare chalk down E., and the woods of Bryanston W., at 14 m. we pass between *Durweston* l. and *Stowerpayne* rt.

The *Ch.* of Durweston has been rebuilt, with the exception of the very handsome Perp. W. tower, ornamented with niches. Over the door is a very curious sculpture, representing the interior of a smithy, where a horse is being shod, supposed to refer to St. Eligius or Eloi, the patron saint of blacksmiths. A former rector was Lord Sydney Godolphin Osborne, the well-known S. G. O. of the ‘Times.’

Stower Payne (so called from the Paynes, its ancient lords) has a Dec. *Ch.*, rebuilt 1858, with an ancient Perp. tower, and contains a kneeling effigy of Vicar Straight (1670). Above the village, N., towering over the rly., is

Hod Hill, crested with an entrenchment which is separated from that on Hambleton Hill by a deep valley. It contains 50 acres, and is constructed in the shape of the

letter D with 2 ramparts, and is remarkable for containing within its area at the N.W. corner a small but very perfect Roman camp, and a number of hut-circles, marking the site of a British settlement. It was a large walled "oppidum," rather than a camp, and is considered by Mr. Warne one of the latest Celtic or British earthworks in Dorset. Still further N. is the rival entrenchment of

Hambleton Hill, crowning a bold outline of the chalk downs, 480 ft. above the valley below. It is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile in length from E. to W. It is protected by 2 ramparts and ditches, strengthened by advanced works at different points. It was probably a British camp, but was occupied by the Romans. It played a part in the Civil Wars, when its entrenched camp was occupied by near 2000 of the west country "Club-men," commanded by Mr. Bravel, Rector of Compton, whence they were ejected Aug. 4th, 1645, by Cromwell and Desborough. "We have taken about 300; many of which are poor silly creatures, whom you will please to let me send home; they promise to be very dutiful for the time to come, 'and will be hanged before they come out again.'"—*Cromwell's Letters*. Many escaped by sliding down the smooth turf slopes. The prisoners were confined at Shrowton or Iwerne-Courtney Ch., with four vicars and curates, who were taken with them on the hill. "The colours taken had sentences of Scripture profanely applied by their malignant priests, who were the principal stirrers-up of the people to these tumultuous assemblies."—*Sprigge*. The motto on one of the colours was:

If you offer to plunder our cattle,
Be assured that we will give you battle."

[At Stower Payne the little river *Iwerne* joins the Stour, running down a pleasant valley, and watering

a chain of villages with churches, which will well reward the tourist for turning out of his way to visit them.

In the valley between Hod Hill and Hambleton Hill is *Stepleton House* (the Hon. Misses Pitt), the property of the late Lord Rivers. *Stepleton Ch.* will interest the antiquary from the singularity of its construction, the chancel being the base of a Norman tower adapted to its present purpose in the 16th cent. Norman windows may be traced in the walls of the nave.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. further *Ranston House* (i.e. *Randolph's Town*) (Rev. Sir Talbot H. B. Baker), a Palladian mansion at the foot of a prettily wooded hill, the stream flowing below.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Iwerne-Courtney*, otherwise known as *Shrowton*, i.e. "*Sheriffston*," from having belonged to Baldwin, the sheriff at the time of the Domesday Survey, on the little river Iwerne, or Ewerne, on which it stands. The *Ch.* was rebuilt, 1641, by Sir Thomas Freke, whose monument with those of others of the family adorn a mortuary chapel, separated from the chancel by curious Jacobean screen-work; and $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Iwerne-Minster* (*Iwerne House*, Lord Wolverton), where the fine *Ch.* is remarkable for possessing almost the only ancient stone spire in the county. The spire and belfry story are Perp.; the lower part of the tower and great part of the ch. is E. E.; one arcade of the nave is Norman. The chancel has lancet windows on the N. *Iwerne-Minster* belonged to the abbey of Shaftesbury, and was appropriated to one of the abbess's confessors. It was one of the many preferments held by William of Wykeham. On the S. side of the church is an old mansion known as *Bay House*. 1 m. further, at *Sutton-Waldron*, a pretty little *Ch.* decorated by Owen Jones was built on a knoll to the S.W. of the village,

at the expense of Archdeacon Anthony Huxtable.

1 m. further, at the foot of Fontmell Down, "tumid with barrows," is *Fontmell Magna*, 4 m. S. of Shaftesbury, with a very good *Ch.*, rebuilt, except the tower, at the cost of the late Sir R. T. Glyn, 1862. All the old portions of interest have been preserved and re-erected. The tower is fine, and the S. aisle and porch much enriched, with bands of panelling, coats of arms, figures, and inscriptions: "O mankynd, have thou yn mynd," "Yer of our Lord God MVOXXX" (1530). Much of the inscription remains yet to be deciphered. The nave is wide, and the arcade remarkably elegant. The capitals of the pillars bear angels with inscribed scrolls. The font is Norman, with a scroll issuing from birds' beaks round the bowl: there is a little old coloured glass. There is a curious screen in the S. aisle with the heads of "Walter King and Esbell his wife." In the churchyard is a memorial cross erected by public subscription to Lieut. Philip Salkeld, who was mortally wounded in blowing up the gate of Delhi, Oct. 11, 1857. At the foot of the conical hill of Melbury is *Compton Abbas*, 7 m. N.E. of Blandford, taking its distinctive name from having belonged to Shaftesbury Abbey. It has a beautiful small church rebuilt, 1868, with broach spire and vaulted chancel.]

From Stourpayne the rly. pursues the valley of the Stour under the lofty heights of Okeford Hill.

16 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Shillingstone* Stat., called also *Shilling Okeford*, taking its name from its ancient lords, the Eschellings. The *Ch.*, which is a conspicuous object from the rly., has a Norm. chancel arch, E. E. chancel, and font and Perp. tower. There is a monument by Chantrey to Mrs. Acton, 1817. The pulpit was the gift of one Wm. Keen, a merchant of London (1666), who retired

hither to avoid the plague. In the churchyard is the base of a cross. The long village straggles up the hill; in the centre of it are the steps and basement of a cross, and a maypole some 50 ft. high, which is annually dressed on June 9. The base of a third cross stands lower down on the Blandford Road. At *Hayward Bridge*, a very ancient passage over the Stour, is a small camp, probably formed to defend the ford from which the three villages, Shilling and Child Okeford, and *Okeford Fitzpaine* derive their names. The *Ch.* of Okeford Fitzpaine was rebuilt 1866, retaining, as far as possible, the ancient features. The tower arch and W. windows are curious and deserve attention. The base of a cross of Dec. date is to be seen in a cottage garden in the centre of the village. 2 m. S.E. *Hanford House* (E. Clay Kerr-Seymer, Esq.) is a very stately gabled mansion, beautifully placed near the banks of the Stour, erected in 1623 by Sir Robert Seymer, surrounded by magnificent timber and approached by an avenue of horse-chesnuts. Close to the house stands the little *Ch.*, erected in 1650, containing memorial windows to the late Henry Ker-Seymer, M.P. for Dorset (d. 1864), and members of his family.

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Sturminster* Stat. *Sturminster-Newton* (*Inns*: White Hart, Swan) is another market-town, insignificant in size, but exceedingly ancient. It was bequeathed by Alfred to his son Ethelwold, and afterwards belonged to Glastonbury Abbey. At the Dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Katharine Parr, and on her death, by Edward VI. to his sister Elizabeth, who demised it to Sir Christopher Hatton. Leland says of it, "The townellette is no greate thing and the building of it is mene." In the Civil Wars the Parliamentary forces had a garrison here, which was forced by the Clubmen, July 3, 1645, when 16 dragoons

were taken prisoners, and many killed and wounded. The *Ch.* (1827) is a modern cruciform building. The tower is old. There are remains of a cross in the village. It is built on a declivity descending to the sluggish *Stour*, which is here crossed by a bridge of 6 arches. Beyond the bridge rises a beautifully wooded hill called *Piddleswood*, a cover belonging to Lord Rivers, the lord of the manor; and immediately opposite the end of the bridge a moated mound (now an orchard), on which the *castle* stood formerly. A fragment of this building with some E. E. arches still remains—worth a visit. Those in search of the picturesque should ascend the steep road above *Sturminster*, which commands a charming landscape.

1 m. N.E. is *Hinton St. Mary*, once belonging to Shaftesbury Abbey. Near the *Ch.*, recently rebuilt except the tower, is an old mansion of the Frekes.

3 m. N. of *Sturminster* is *Marnhull*. The *Ch.* is a good building, with a fine lofty Perp. tower, rebuilt 1718, on the fall of its predecessor. The main features are Perp., with some E. E. features in the nave arcade. The arches opening into the chancel and N. and S. transeptal chapels have excellent mouldings and well-carved capitals. In the N. aisle are 3 well-preserved sepulchral effigies, attributed, but the costume shows erroneously, to Thomas Howard, Lord Bindon, d. 1582, and his two wives. *Nash Court* (J. Hussey, Esq.), 1 m. N., is a fine mansion, containing some good paintings by Vandyck, &c. It was the birthplace of *Giles Hussey*, 1710, an artist of much originality, who, however, led away by fanciful analogies between painting and music, wasted his talents in vainly reducing the proportions of the human face and body to a musical scale. A few of his drawings are preserved at *Lulworth*

Castle. *Marnhull* became, 1795, the place of refuge of a society of English Benedictine nuns from Paris, who afterwards removed to *Cannington* near *Bridgwater*. (Rte. 32.)

1 m. N. of *Marnhull* is *Fifehead Magdalen*, very prettily situated on the top of the hill which rises from the *Stour*. The manor belonging to *Hugh de Avranches*, Earl of *Chester*, was given by his descendant, *Ralph Gernons*, to *St. Augustine's Priory*, *Bristol*, and was made by *Henry VIII.* part of the endowment of that see. The little *Ch.* has a N. chapel built by *Sir Richard Newman*, lessee, under the Bp. of *Bristol* in 1693, containing some stately monuments of the family. Under the yew-tree in the churchyard is a curious tomb to *Thomas Newman*, the burial-place of whose family is recorded by a Greek inscription in the *Ch.* In several places the rebus of *Abbot Nailheart* of *Bristol* may be seen.

2 m. S.E. is *Todbere*, the original seat of the ancient family of the *Carents*, with a little E. E. *Ch.*

1½ m. S. is a small oblong Roman camp of a single vallum and fosse of no great strength, called *Banbury*, and S.W., on the stream of the *Divelish*, *Plumber House*, a seat of the *Prideaux-Brunes*. 5 m. S., on a spur of the chalk downs, below *Rawlsbury* and *Bulbarrow*, is

Woolland, where a very handsome *Ch.* was erected 1857, after the designs of *Sir G. Gilbert Scott*, by *Montague Williams, Esq.*, of *Woolland House*. It is built of stone from *Hamhill* and the neighbouring quarries of *Hazelbury Bryan*, and is richly decorated with marbles of varied hues within. *Hazelbury Bryan*, 1½ m. N.W. of *Woolland* was the rectory of the *Rev. H. Walter* (d. 1859), first Professor of *Nat. Philosophy* at the *East India College* of *Haileybury*. The *Ch.* deserves notice. On the W. side of the churchyard is an ancient house (c. 1480). The rly. now deserts the *Stour*, and cross-

ing the little tributary of the Lidden, reaches

23 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Stalbridge* Stat. (*Inns*: Swan, Red Lion; Pop. 2096). *Stalbridge*, originally *Staplebridge*, is a small market-town, once the property of the abbey of Sherborne. The view from the neighbouring hill and the *Ch.* and the *cross* in the street are the only things to remark in it. In the view are seen *Alfred's Tower* at *Stourhead*, and the out-lying knolls of *Duncliff* and *Kingsettle* near *Shaftesbury*.

The *Ch.* chiefly *Perp.*, which had suffered much from ill-judged repairs, was thoroughly restored and the tower rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt in 1878, at the cost of the Rev. H. Boucher. The capitals of the chancel aisle are carved with angels bearing scrolls, inscribed with texts. The chapel contains two fine altar-tombs. A gravestone bears the epitaph in Lombardic letters of William of Exeter, formerly rector. The *Perp.* arcades of the nave are lofty and well-proportioned. In a gravel-pit at *Stalbridge* there was a find of copper and bronze Roman coins, mostly of Constantius, and Roman pottery, in 1866.

The *Market Cross* is light and beautiful, about 30 ft. high, but much weather-worn and mutilated. The steps are modern. The figure of the Saviour is represented on the shaft; those of the Virgin and St. John on the stone above it; on the pediment are 4 rude designs, probably representing the Resurrection, in bas-relief. The whole is richly ornamented.

Stalbridge Park was purchased by the late Marquis of Westminster of the late Marquis of Anglesea, and is now leased as a farm. The house, a fine Elizabethan structure, stood N. of *Stalbridge*, among a group of old chesnut-trees, and commanded a delightful view of the *Vale of Blackmoor* and of the downs beyond it. It was pulled down, 1822, by the

steward of the Marquis of Anglesea; relics of its grandeur are to be found all over the neighbourhood. The present house was the laundry. The manor belonged to Sherborne Abbey, and at the Dissolution was granted to Protector Somerset. It afterwards belonged to the Touchets, Lords Audley, and on the attainder of the last baron it passed to Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork, whose 14th child, the celebrated *Robert Boyle*, the natural philosopher, born in the castle of Lismore, in Ireland, 1626-7, resided in it until 1650, and here made his first chemical experiments. It was subsequently the residence of Walters, infamous for his parsimony, a member of Pope's trio, "Walters, Chartres, and the Devil." Anthony Dalaber, one of the members of the first Protestant Divinity class at Oxford (whose interesting narrative has been reprinted by Froude, ii. 47-61), was connected with *Stalbridge*, where his brother was parson of the parish, "a rank papist and the most mortal enemy that ever I had for the Gospel's sake." The living was bought by Abp. Tenison, and given to Corpus College, Cambridge.

[2 m. S.W. *Stourton Caundle Ch.*, E. E., contains a curious alabaster female effigy in an elaborate costume on an altar-tomb, with a crocketed canopy, and also an altar-tomb to Sir Simon Chidiock, and a *Perp.* carved oak pulpit. The Castle or manor-house, was formerly a jointure-house of the Stourtons. Some few traces of it remain, and the E. E. chapel behind the farmhouse is nearly entire.

2 m. E. of *Stourton Caundle* is *Thornhill*, the residence of the Rev. H. Boucher, and formerly of Sir James *Thornhill* (whose father had sold it), the painter of the cupola of St. Paul's, who was its architect as well as owner. An obelisk, on an eminence near the house, erected by Sir James to the memory of his

patron, Geo. I.; bearing the date 1727, was blown down in 1836, and rebuilt by the Rev. H. Boucher in 1874.]

The rly. now crosses the border, and, leaving Dorset, enters Somerset, and reaches

25 $\frac{1}{4}$ *Henstridge* Stat. The *Ch.* contains the fine canopied altar-tomb with effigies of William Carteret, d. 1476, high-sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, and his wife Margaret, sister of John, first Lord Stourton, the one in armour, the other in a robe decorated with rosettes. The shields on the shoulders of the male effigy bear the arms of his mother, Alice, the heiress of the Toomers, and the mantle of the female bears those of Stourton. William Carteret's brother Nicholas was Dean of Wells, and in 1463 Bishop Beckington published an indulgence of forty days to all true penitents who should say a paternoster and ave at this tomb, for the souls of "that worthy man" William Carteret, his brother the Dean, and their relatives.

The *Virginia Inn*, at *Henstridge Ash*, stands on 4 cross-roads. A young ash-tree, the successor of one of considerable age, surrounded by a circular stone seat, grows by the road-side, and is one of the many traditional sites of the tale of Sir Walter Raleigh and his pipe.

27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Temple Combe Junction* Stat., where the Somerset and Dorset Rly. crosses the main line of the S.-W. Rly. to Yeovil and Exeter (Rte. 12).

The district we have been traversing is known as the *Vale of Blackmoor*, a wide fertile level, watered by the *Cale*, which flows southwards from Wincanton to join the Stour. It is celebrated among farmers as one of the richest of pasture lands. Its marshy surface is speckled by herds of lazy cattle, and by busier droves of pigs, of which this vale

supplies to London a larger number than either of the counties of Somerset or Devon. Blackmoor is also known for the vigorous growth of its oaks, which thrive on the strong clay. It was originally called *White Hart Forest*, from Henry III. having here hunted a beautiful white hart and spared its life; and Fuller gives the sequel to the tale. He says that Thomas de la Lynd, a gentleman of fair estate, killed the white hart which Henry by express will had reserved for his own chase, and that in consequence the county—as accessory for not opposing him—was mulcted for ever in a fine called "White-hart Silver." "Myself," continues Fuller, "hath paid a share for the sauce who never tasted the meat." The memory of the White Hart is preserved by the "King's Stag Bridge" over the Lidden, at the village of Pulham, 6 m. S. of Stalbridge, and the inn of the same name. The local tradition, which is still fresh, is that the stag was killed here. Loudon informs us that the vale contained *Losel's Wood*, in which stood the *Raven's Oak*, mentioned by White in his 'Nat. Hist. of Selborne.'

The rly. ascends the valley of the *Cale*, a tributary of the Stour, to 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *WINCANTON* Stat. (*Inns*: Greyhound, Bear; Pop. 2397), a thriving little town, situated on the *Cale*. It stands on the western slope of the hill at the head of the broad *Vale of Blackmoor*, where the hills form a natural terrace.

Wincanton, formerly called *Wincaleton*, from the river *Cale* on which it stands, is a town of great antiquity. The manor, granted by William the Conqueror to Walter of Douais, belonged in succession to the Lovells of Castle Cary, the St. Maurs and Zouches, of which the two latter families were seated at *Marsh Court*, now a farmhouse, 3 m. S. It was probably built out of the ruins of the old Manor House,

after the Restoration. A chimney-piece on the first floor bears the initials G. T. K. (George Thomas Knight), 1661, embossed in plaster. Part of the moat still remains. In 1553 Wincanton was terribly ravaged by the plague, to such an extent that the roads to it were closed, and travellers passed into Wiltshire by Alfred's Tower, along the old British trackway from Old Sarum to Ilchester. In 1654 an active little Parliamentary garrison was collected here to annoy Sherborne Castle. Skirmishes were frequent, and on April 1 Sir J. Digby with a brigade of horse dragoons carried off 200 prisoners, with two colours and 300 horses. In 1688 it was the scene of a skirmish between a small party of troops on the side of the Prince of Orange and some Irish dragoons of James II.—in which the first blood was shed in the Revolution (*Macaulay*, ii. 514). The Prince afterwards slept in a house in South street, where the *Orange room* is still pointed out. Great part of the town was burnt in 1747. The *Ch.* has been grievously modernised and has lost all appearance of antiquity externally. In the *Town Hall* was a portrait (burnt in a recent fire) of Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Speaker of the House of Commons in Edward VI.'s second Parliament 1553 (d. 1582), who lived at Roundhill, in this parish. The integrity of his character and his profound legal knowledge carried him unscathed through the eventful period in which he lived, and secured him the confidence of three successive sovereigns. One of Queen Mary's first formal acts was the appointment of Dyer as Queen's Serjeant, though he was known to be a favourer of the reformed Faith, and on the day following Elizabeth's accession his commission as Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas was renewed, and the next year he became Chief

Justice. Wheatstone, a contemporary rhymster speaks of him as

"Alive, refuge of those whom wrong did
payne;
A Dyer such as dyde without a stayne."

The grandfather of the famous Dr. Sacheverell held the incumbency of Wincanton during the Commonwealth, and being ejected by the Bartholomew Act retired to his wife's estate at Stalbridge. Being apprehended under the Conventicle Act at Shaftesbury, he was committed to Dorchester gaol, where he suffered a 3 years' imprisonment, resulting in his death. There is a mineral spring and defunct spa at *Horwood*, at the foot of Coneygore Hill, 1 m. S.W. *Roundhill*, 2 m. N., was the seat of the Diers and the birthplace of the Lord Chief Justice; having been previously a grange of Stavordale Priory. The house was rebuilt 1701.

4 m. S.W. of Wincanton is *Horsington*, where there is a very remarkable preaching cross of the 13th cent. bearing the figure of a preaching friar under a canopy surmounted by scrolls. Adjoining it are the Manor House of the Gawens and the Church House bearing the date 1611, and some picturesque ancient cottages. A Perp. window in the curious rectory dovecot was brought from the manor house of Stowell.

[The pretty road out of this town towards Bruton, and the view from that towards Castle Cary, should be seen. At a distance of 7 m. S.W. is *Cadbury Castle*, the traditional camp of King Arthur (Rte. 23); 3 m. in the direction of Bruton *Redlinch Park*, the property of the Earl of Ilchester, the house (now uninhabited) built in 1672 by Sir Stephen Fox; to the N., *Alfred's Tower* and *Jack's Castle* (Rte. 12); below the heights of Jack's Castle and Penridge, about 3 m. N.E. from Wincanton, some remains of the Augustinian priory of

Stavordale, founded 1263 by Richard Lovel. The *Church* was rebuilt by John Stourton c. 1443, when the estate was held by William Lord Zouche of Castle Cary, whose arms are seen in the stonework. The shell of the conventual ch. remains entire, but desecrated to the purposes of a farmhouse and offices. The choir is the farmhouse, the nave a barn, the N. chapel, with a groined roof of exquisite beauty, the dairy. *Stavordale* gives the title of Baron to the Earl of Ilchester.

The road to Mere climbs *Bayford Hill*, which on the rt. looks far into Dorsetshire. l. are *Bayford House*, and *Bayford Lodge*, J. Bradney, Esq.

The road crosses *Leigh Common*, the place of meeting of the witches of Wincanton and the vicinity, where the devil appeared to them in the shape of a handsome man, and the company had cake and wine and good beer, while a man in black played a pipe or cittern, and the company danced, as is recorded in the depositions taken at Castle Cary in 1664 in Glanvil's "*Sadducismus Triumphatus*." It then enters a projecting tongue of Dorsetshire, and ascends the steep southern escarpment of the elevated plateau on which stand the little village and church of

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Pen Selwood*. The small *Ch.* has a Norm. S. door, and a Norm. font, and other ancient features, preserved when it was rebuilt in 1806. This is almost certainly the site of *Caer Pensauelcoit*, one of the British cities mentioned by Nennius, and is identified by Dr. Guest with "*Peonne* by Gillingham," where, in 1658, Ceneuwlch of Wessex defeated the Welsh and secured the annexation of Somersetshire to his kingdom. It was also, in 1016, the scene of the great victory of Edmund Ironside over Canute. The position is a very remarkable one and of great natural strength. The elevated ground

forming the heights of *Stourhead Park*, marked by Jack's Castle, and Alfred's Tower, sends out a kind of bastion, known as *Penridge*, at the line of junction of the three counties of Wilts, Somerset and Dorset, forming the centre and key of the district. To the E. and S. is a steep escarpment. To the S. the steep slope has been cut into by the sources and affluents of the *Stour*, forming projecting tongues of land, which have been strongly fortified. The most northerly of these spurs has its E. end cut off by a deep ditch, and is occupied by an earthwork known as the *Castle*. The outer Bailey to the W. is again cut off by a rampart and fosse. The southern spur is also fortified by strong earthworks, a circular keep known as *Castle Orchard*, overhanging the *Stour*, commands the entrance of the valley. Behind the keep is an oblong outer bailey also strongly and separately fortified. The S. and W. sides of the position where the table-land is less strongly defended by nature is protected by a lofty artificial earthen rampart, which appears on both sides of the outlet of the *Stour*. A very considerable extent of this fortified area is honeycombed with thousands of rudely conical pits of various sizes scattered about, without any attempt at arrangement. Those to the S. of *Rose Combe* (the valley dividing the two chief spurs) are known as the *Pen Pits*; those to the N. of the *Combe* as the *Gasper Pits*. They are found also in large numbers on the E. side of the river. Sir R. C. Hoare estimated the area covered by these pits at 700 acres, of which one half had at that time been brought into cultivation. This has been much increased since Hoare's time, and every year sees the obliteration of a very large number of these interesting memorials of the past destroyed by filling up and levelling. The object of these excavations has been warmly con-

tested, affording, in Sir R. C. Hoare's words, "food for conjecture, rather than positive conviction." That author, however, regarded them as "the work of a rude nation and of British origin," and considered them to be the sites of the circular huts or wigwams of the primæval inhabitants of our island. The opinion is confirmed by a large number of similar examples in different parts of England, in many of which the discovery of fragments of utensils, personal ornaments, and other traces of domestic life (none of which have been as yet found at Pen Pits) has proved beyond question that these cavities indicate groups of habitations forming a primæval settlement. This opinion, since maintained by Mr. T. Kerslake, was strongly contested by the late Rev. F. Warre, who conjectured that these pits were quarries, sunk for the purpose of reaching a hard bed of greensand, locally known as Penstone, used for millstones and querns, as well as for building. This view has also been taken by the Committee appointed by the Somersetshire Archaeological Society, appointed for the exploration of the remarkable historical site. The question, however, cannot be regarded as in any way settled, and it awaits further elucidation.

Stourton is little more than 1 m. N. of Pen Selwood, and *Stourhead House* about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m.

Cucklington is 3 m. S.E. of Wincanton. The *Ch.* has a fine tower to the S. The arcades are Trans.; the E. window curvilinear. In this parish is *Shank's House* (D. F. Grant Dalton, Esq.), standing in richly wooded grounds, with some fine cedars.]

Bratton, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., stands on the steep slope of Bratton Hill, conspicuous from the rly. l. In 1834 on Cattle Hill, a lofty tumulus W. of Bratton Ch., the foundations of a Roman building were discovered with some coins of Constantius II. It was [Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

probably a watch-tower, and a point of communication between *Cadbury Castle* and *Kingsettle Hill*, on which Alfred's Tower stands. *Yarlington*, with its old E. E. Ch., stands W. of Bratton Hill. *Yarlington Lodge* is the residence of T. E. Rogers, Esq. *Hadspen House* (H. Hobhouse, Esq.) is a venerable-looking mansion, with woods rising above it. Passing on l. at 34 m. *Shepton Montague*, close to the rly., with a Perp. Ch. restored in 1855, and rt. *Redlinch Park* (Earl of Ilchester) (Rte. 23), we run through a remarkably picturesque country, among wooded hills and deep valleys, and reach

35 m. *Cole Stat.*, within $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. of Castle Cary W. and Bruton E. (Rte. 23), a very short distance of the village of Pitcombe, S. A little beyond *Cole Stat.*, the Somerset and Dorset line crosses the Frome and Weymouth line and the wooded valley of the Brue, winds westwards, and passing *Week Champflower* rt., and at 37 m. *Lamyat* at the foot of *Creech Hill* (a bold promontory of the oolite, with a small camp on the summit), reaches, through very pretty country,

$37\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Evercreech Junction Stat.* An omnibus runs several times a day to Castle Cary, 3 m.

New Evercreech, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., is the stat. for the village of Evercreech. The *Ch.* deserves inspection. The fine tower, resembling the still finer one of Wrington, is a pretty feature in the landscape. The nave and N. aisle are good Perp., and there is a fine wooden roof, with ancient colouring. The E. window is Dec. In the village is a good 15th-cent. cross, removed from the churchyard.

On the rt., about 2 m. N.E. of Evercreech, is the small but curious aisleless church of *Chesterblade*; originally a Norman building, of which date are the S. door and some remains of the chancel corbel-table. The bell-cot is Perp. It contains a Norm. tub-font and a

stone reading-desk with shelf and panelling of the date of Hen. VIII., perhaps intended as a desk for the Bible immediately after the Reformation.

1½ m. S. of Evercreech, *Milton Clevedon* has a small cruciform *Ch.*, E. E. altered to Perp., with a tower of the last cent. In the chancel is an E. E. tomb with the effigy of a priest.

* * [*Ditcheat*, 1 m. W. of Evercreech Junction, has a *Ch.* fine enough to reward the tourist for turning out of his way to examine it. It is cruciform, with a central tower, Perp., with canopied niches, and terminated with a pyramidal capping. The initials and monogram of Abbot John Selwood of Glastonbury, of which Abbey Ditcheat was a manor, appear on the parapets. The W. front is a good composition. The crossing is Trans.; the lantern has a fan vault. The chancel is Dec., the windows fine examples of pure geometrical tracery, their rear arches being foliated (a local feature). A Perp. clerestory has been added to the chancel, and one small Norm. window remains, a relic of the original church. The nave is Perp. and has light arcades, a clerestory, and fine well-preserved wooden roofs. There is some curious post-Reformation woodwork, including chancel screen stalls and pulpit (1630.) In the chancel there is an early Dec. tomb with the effigy of a priest. The bells have ancient inscriptions. The churchyard cross has been modernised. The old sculptured head is preserved by the rector. The Manor House of the Abbots of Glastonbury is near the church. It afterwards belonged to Sir Ralph Hopton, a noble specimen of the Cavaliers of Charles the First's time. It is partly late Perp., but the larger part dates from Charles II.]

The rly. continues up the beautiful valley, rich in woods and orchards,

and sweeping round Pennard Hill S., reaches

39¾ m. *Pylle* Stat., 1 m. from the the hamlet of *Street*, on the Fosseyway, which intersects the parish from N. to S., and climbs the Pennard ridge in bold defiance of natural obstacles. The *ch.* of Pylle is Trans.-Norman altered into Perp. and well rebuilt.

Pylle House, now a farmhouse, was a mansion of the Berkeleys. The E. wing, in the Elizabethan style, is still standing.

East Pennard may be visited either from Pylle or West Pennard Stat., 2 m. from each. The large *Ch.*, Perp., has a low tower, unlike the usual Somersetshire type, with five large and fine-toned bells. It has a good carved oak roof and richly-carved Norm. font. A Perp. cross stands in the churchyard. Near this is *Pennard House* (E. B. Napier, Esq.). The views from Wraxhill Hill, 1 m. E. are beautiful.

41¾ m. rt. in a pretty valley, 1 m. N., stands *Pilton*, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The *Ch.* is beautifully situated. It is partly Trans. in style, with Perp. clerestory, and a later chancel, said to have been built by Amberson, Precentor of Wells. The S. door is Norm., the N. door E. E. with a Perp. arch inserted. The tie-beam roof is a good one of its kind. The pulpit is a fine specimen of its style (1618). The pulpit-cloth has been made out of a cope. At Pilton was a grange of the Abbots of Glastonbury, of which a noble barn remains, of the time of Rich. II., the architecture inclining rather to the Perp. than the Dec. (figured in Parker's *Dom. Ant.*, vol. ii.), with the emblems of the four Evangelists under the gable windows.

Perridge House is a mansion pleasantly situated.

Passing under *Stickleball Hill*, 1., we arrive at

43¼ m. *West Pennard* Stat., 1½ m.

E. of the village from which it takes its name, and the same distance from Pilton. The *Ch.* is a fine Perp. building in excellent condition, thoroughly restored, and fitted with open seats. The tower has much elegant ornamentation, and is groined. The Tudor arches within bespeak a late date. The N. aisle and chancel have fine panelled roofs, and there is a good rood screen with vine-leaf carving, and a rich carved W. door. The pulpit retains the hour-glass stand. In the churchyard is a fine cross, the quatrefoil panels of the base containing the emblems of the Passion and the cipher of Richard Bere, Abbot of Glastonbury, d. 1524. 1 m. W. on the road to Glastonbury is *Ponter's Ball*, a very curious earthwork crossing the isthmus E. of Glastonbury and protecting it.

The rly. here enters on the wide expanse once a peat bog surrounding Glastonbury, and sweeping round the N. side of the Tor Hill with its conspicuous tower reaches

48½ m. GLASTONBURY Stat., where it joins the line from Wells. Glastonbury (*Inns*: George, Red Lion; Pop. 3719) is a municipal borough and market-town, owing its origin to its celebrated abbey, one of the earliest centres of Christianity in England. It was in far distant ages an island rising from the estuary of the Brue, the glass-like clearness of whose waters gained for it the name by which it is said to have been known to the Britons, *Ynys-witren*, or *Ynys-gwydryn*, "insula vitrea," which has descended to later times in the A.-S. *Glaestingabyrig*, and the modern Glastonbury. [Another view is that the root-syllable *glas* is British, signifying blue, from the colour of the waters surrounding the place, and that *Ynys-witren*, "the glass island," is a modern antique coined to support a mistaken etymology.] [Another grotesque legend derives the name

from one "Glæsting," an Anglo-Saxon whose lost sow led him a long journey to a tree loaded with apples, then a great rarity in the district, near the "vetusta ecclesia." Pleased with the land he took his family, the Glæstingas, to reside there, and it became the "byrig" of his descendants.—*Gale*, 295.] The Britons knew it also by the name of *Avalon*, or "Apple-Tree isle" (*Aval*=apple, Welsh), which the Romans adopting, called it *Insula Avallonia*, the mystic "Isle of Avalon," which later tradition assigned as the spot where, as men fancied, "not long after the complete legend of Arthur had been invented, the tomb of Arthur being fittingly invented also," the Arthur of romance had been buried, but where he really slept in fairy bower to awake in due time, the avenger of his country's wrongs—

"The island valley of Avilion,
Where falls not hail, or rain, or any snow,
Nor ever wind blows loudly, but it lies
Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard
lawns
And bowery hollows crowned with summer
sea."
Tennyson.

Hither also the body of the disloyal but repentant Guinevere was brought, it is said, from Amesbury to repose by the side of her wronged husband, in the same rude sarcophagus, hollowed from the trunk of a huge oak. The place of their sepulture was said to have been marked by two tall stone crosses, between which the supposed royal pair reposed undisturbed till the days of Henry II., who, fired by the praises of the renowned conqueror chanted by the native bards, while he was tarrying at St. David's for the assembling of the fleet with which he was purposing to cross to complete the conquest of Ireland, desired his nephew, the then abbot, A.D. 1171, to have the royal remains removed from the open cemetery to a more honourable position within the church. A search was accordingly made, and at the depth of 16 ft. a massive oak trunk was discovered,

with two cavities, the one containing a gigantic skeleton, the leg bone reaching to the middle of the thigh of a living man; the other the bones of a female. A lock of golden hair was still gleaming in the midst of the decay, but on a monk's hastily snatching at it to raise it from its recess, it immediately crumbled to dust. They also, it is said, found a leaden cross with a Latin inscription—"Hic jacet sepultus inclytus Rex Arthurus in insula Avallonia."

The relics were removed to the Ch., and subsequently placed in a mausoleum before the high altar with the tomb of Edward the Elder on the N., where they were visited by Edward I. and Queen Eleanor, 1276, and were seen by Leland at the middle of the 16th century. The skulls of Arthur and Guinevere were placed outside the shrine for the devotion of the people.

The chief interest of Glastonbury, however, arises from its connection with the early religious history of our country. "The Ch. of Glastonbury—founded by the Briton, honoured and enriched by the Englishman—is the one great religious foundation which lived through the storm of English conquest, and in which Briton and Englishman have an equal share . . . What Glastonbury has to itself, alone and without rival, is its historical position as the tie at once national and religious which binds the history and memories of our race to those of the race which we supplanted. Nowhere is there the same unbroken continuity of religious life" (*E. A. F.*) The early history of Glastonbury may be discarded as bearing the clear stamp of utter fiction. There is no doubt, however, that its religious history has a very early commencement. Dr. Guest's belief (*Arch. Journ.*, xvi. 129) that it did not become the head sanctuary of the Britons till after the loss of Amesbury, points to a prior existence.

The first record that has any semblance of historical truth is that in 601 A.D. the king—possibly Gwrgan Varvtrwch—"gave to Ynysvitrin the old church." From this point its greatness as a religious foundation historically commences. Tradition assigns its foundation to Joseph of Arimathea, who had been sent with 11 companions by St. Philip, then preaching in France, A.D. 63, to evangelize Britain. Rejected by the King and his people, the missionaries took refuge in the island now known as Glastonbury, then overgrown with rough thickets and brushwood, and lying deep in the almost impenetrable recesses of a boggy estuary, which, at the commencement of the Christian era, must have been nearly inaccessible. Here, at the command of the Archangel Gabriel, St. Joseph built a small wattled chapel in honour of the Virgin. The original missionaries died off, and the existence of the little oratory was lost sight of until, in A.D. 166, Pope Eleutherius, at the request of King Lucius, sent 2 missionaries, who in the course of their progress discovered the chapel, and received supernatural information of its dedication, and re-established a religious settlement in the island. Three hundred years later St. Patrick visited the spot, established the regular cœnobitic life, and became the first abbot, and d. 472. Its fame grew, and the "vetusta ecclesia," or "ligna basilica," became a favourite object of pilgrimage. Gildas the historian d. here 512, and was buried in the "Vetusta Ecclesia." St. Paulinus, Abp. of York, c. 630, covered the little wattled structure with boards, and cased it in lead, as a precious relic. K. Ina, 688, by the advice of St. Aldhelm, built and endowed a monastery here, and founded the "Major Ecclesia" in honour of SS. Peter and Paul. It was devastated in the Danish wars, but was thoroughly restored by Dunstan, "the greatest

son, the greatest ruler that Glastonbury ever saw; the friend of Edmund, the counsellor of Edred, the victim of Edwy, the friend and guide of Edgar, the giver of peace." (*E A. F.*) He was born near Glastonbury, and educated by the Celtic monks, who were then the chief occupants of the monastery. This was the scene of his nightly wanderings over the parapets and roofs of the church in the paroxysms of brain fever, and it was in a cell in the churchyard that the tremendous struggle took place with sensual temptations, which he was vainly striving to repress by hard labour at the forge, to which later tradition has given a coarse and material form. Dunstan by K. Edmund's appointment became abbot, A.D. 940, and introduced the Benedictine rule into England, and rebuilt the church and monastery. Edwy expelled and banished him; and it is recorded that when armed men were driving him from the church, a sound was heard, likened by some to the "wheezy voice of a gleesome hag," by others to "the bleating of a calf," but which was recognised unmistakably by all as the exulting voice of the devil.

The second Norman abbot, Herlewin, 1101–1120, pulled down the church as deficient in grandeur and began a new one, carried on by his successors Sigfrid, and King Stephen's brother, Henry of Blois. In 1184 the whole was burnt, and the relics, to the still greater grief of the monks, perished. The work of restoration was immediately commenced by the command, and at the expense, of King Henry II., the direction of the works being committed to his "camerarius," his nephew Ralph. The first part finished was the chapel of St. Mary (now erroneously known as St. Joseph's Chapel), on the site of the "*Vetusta Ecclesia*," the little wattled erection of the first missionaries. This was dedicated June 11, c. 1186. The

name of St. Joseph of Arimathea's chapel attached to this building is "a curious record of the permanency of local superstition."—*Willis*. It is due to the undoubted fact that it stands on the site of the oratory erected by the early missionaries, among whom the very natural desire, in an uncritical age, to identify the religious history of their country with some one or more of the most eminent characters of the New Testament, had placed Joseph of Arimathea. The tradition that afterwards grew up, and was carefully fostered by the monks, who found their profit in it from the number of devotees and pilgrims it brought to the abbey, was to the effect that St. Joseph lay buried "*in linea bifurcata*" (*i.e.* a linen shirt with 2 flaps) at the S.E. corner of the oratory.

The great church was probably begun at the E. end, and carried regularly onwards to the W. The death of Henry II., and the warlike tastes of his successor Richard, interrupted the work, and the monks were at their wits' end for money, when, by a lucky inspiration, it was suddenly remembered that the body of St. Dunstan had been secretly removed from Canterbury, and was interred somewhere in the ruined church. The sacred relics were sought for, and, of course, found; and, in spite of the remonstrances of the monks of Canterbury, who claimed the possession of the Abp.'s body—a controversy which lasted almost up to the Reformation—began immediately to work miracles and cures, and to direct to Glastonbury a rich flow of offerings. Thus the church, of which the fragments remain, was completed, and received dedication A.D. 1303. The vaulting, the springing of which can be traced in the S. aisle of the nave, was added by Abbot Sodbury c. 1330, who also gave the clock, now at Wells. Abbot Mornington, 1341–1374, vaulted the

choir, and added 2 bays at the E. end. The last abbot but one, Richard Beere, a mighty man for building, raised inverted arches, as at Wells, to uphold the tower, and made other additions, especially St. Edgar's Chapel at the extreme E. end, which was finished by Abbot Whiting only a few years before he suffered the foul punishment of a traitor on the Tor.

Glastonbury was a mitred abbey, and its head ranked as the premier abbot of England till 1154, when precedence was given to the abbot of St. Alban's. "His apartment in the abbey," we are told, "was a kind of well-disciplined court, where the sons of noblemen and gentlemen were sent for virtuous education, and returned thence excellently accomplished." Abbot Whiting had bred up near 300 after this manner, besides others of a meaner rank, whom he fitted for the universities. At home his table, attendance, and officers were an honour to the nation. Sometimes he even entertained 500 persons of fashion at a time; and twice every week all the poor of the neighbourhood were relieved by him. When he went abroad, he was attended by upwards of 100 persons. The library was one of the most richly stored in England. Leland, who spent some days there by Abb. Whiting's permission copying MSS., records that he had scarcely passed the threshold when the sight of so many sacred remains of antiquity struck him with an awe of astonishment, that, for a moment, he hesitated.

The execution of Abb. Whiting, however palliated by Mr. Froude, was one of the foulest of the many judicial murders that disgraced the stormy period of the Reformation. His alleged crimes were "the robbery of his church:" *i.e.* the concealment of its sacred vessels and other treasures from the legalised depredators that were at hand; and

"very haut and rank treason:" *i.e.*, in Froude's words, "that he was more faithful to the Church than to the State, and was guilty of regarding the old ways as better than the new."

Whiting was apprehended at his manor-house of Sharpham, conveyed to the Tower, whence he was sent back into Somersetshire, "already condemned at a tribunal where Cromwell sat as prosecutor, jury, and judge."—*Froude*. He was arraigned at Wells, Nov. 14, 1539, in the Bishop's Great Hall, sentenced to death, and the next day drawn on a hurdle, with 2 of his monks, to the top, it is said, of the Tor Hill, and there put to death. His head was fixed over his abbey gate. His quarters were sent to Wells, Bath, Ilchester, and Bridgwater, to strike terror into the hearts of all who might dare to question the King's prerogative to do what he would in his own dominions.

An attempt was made in Mary's reign to restore the abbey, but her death speedily put an end to the plan.

The manor of Glastonbury, with the site of the ch. and abbey, was granted by Edward VI. to the Duke of Somerset, and by Elizabeth to Sir Peter Carew. The buildings were abandoned, and allowed to fall into ruin; and, being regarded as the stone quarry of the neighbourhood, nearly the whole was gradually destroyed. Between 1792–94 the ground surrounding it was cleared, levelled, and converted into pasturage, and cartloads of stones, capitals, corbels, pinnacles, and rich fragments of sculpture, were used for making a new road over the marshes to Wells. "Happily for the interests of archaeology, the present proprietor, Mr. Austin, is an ardent admirer of these magnificent and beautiful fragments of antiquity, and spares no pains to preserve them from further mutilation."

The entrance to the abbey ruins is

on the S. of the chief street, under the new Assembly Rooms, through a garden in which a young scion of the famous Glastonbury Thorn (see *post*) still puts forth its leaves and blossoms when all its brethren are bare.

Of the vast ch. and its appended buildings, the remnants are scanty. Of the latter we have only the abbot's kitchen, and a small fragment adjoining, and a gateway, now converted into the *Red Lion Inn*. Of the ch. we have the 2 E. tower piers, with one of the N. transeptal chapels (erroneously called St. Mary's), nearly the whole of the S. wall of the choir aisle, some bays of the S. nave aisle, and the so-called St. Joseph's Chapel. The whole is of Tr.-Norman, passing into E. E., corresponding with the date of its commencement (c. 1184); the same design having been maintained throughout with apparently but little variation in detail. The work is of the very highest type, and the excellence of the stone, from the Doulting quarries, renders the details almost as fresh as when they were first executed. The fragments of the triforium and clerestory attached to the tower piers enable us to restore the general design of the ch., which, both in size and architectural excellence, was on a level with our first-class cathedrals. The ch., exclusive of St. Joseph's Chapel, was 410 ft. long by 90 ft. broad; the transept 282 ft. long; St. Joseph's Chapel 118 ft. by 40 ft., making a total length of 528 ft., Winchester, our longest cathedral, being 530 ft. long. The nave was of 10 bays; the constructional choir (the ritual choir was under the tower) originally of 4, increased by Abbot Monington in the latter half of the 14th century to 6, with a procession path, and chapels projecting to the E. The eye of the skilful antiquary will detect in the double respond the position of the original E. gable, and in the absence of the bench-table, and in the differ-

ence of the mouldings of the eastern-most bays, the marks of Monington's addition. "The windows of the choir aisle are of the pointed Norman type throughout, ornamented with zigzag work of the late intricate kind in which straight lines alternate with the angles, as in the N. porch of Wells."—*Willis*. The inner arches of the nave windows are round, the outer pointed. The sills are higher than those of the choir, in consequence of the cloister standing against this aisle. The W. part, of which the central door remains, was of fully developed E. E. of a later character, as at Wells.

The best preserved and most interesting portion of the ruins, "the loveliest building that Glastonbury can show, the jewel of late Romanesque on a small scale" (*E. A. F.*), is the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, corruptly known since the 15th cent. as *St. Joseph's Chapel*, annexed, like the Galilee or Lady-chapel at Durham, to the W. end of the great ch. This, as we have seen, stands on the site of the original wattled structure of the first missionaries, and may therefore be regarded as one of the most interesting buildings in the ecclesiastical history of our country. As it was first built in 1184, it was an isolated rectangular edifice of 4 bays, with a square turret terminating in a pyramidal cap, at each angle. Subsequently the gap between it and the ch. was filled up by an E. E. addition of 3 bays, containing a broad flight of steps up to the W. door, added to give access to the ch. from the old cemetery of the monks on the S. and that of the laity to the N.; and, later still, the E. wall of the chapel was pierced with a large arch, under which stood the altar, with a reredos behind. The composition of St. Joseph's Chapel is singularly rich; the style of decoration florid, and the workmanship admirable. Rich interlacing arcades ornament the space beneath the windows within and with-

out. Vaulting shafts in quadruple groups carried the ribs of the groined roof. Two richly carved semicircular doorways give access to the chapel on the N. and S. 4 richly moulded windows light the chapel on each side, and a triplet pierces the W. wall. 2 of the 4 turrets, those to the S.E. and N.W., remain, and greatly add to the picturesque effect of the ruins.

The crypt is a later construction, formed in the 15th centy., not for ornament, but for use, to 'provide a place of sepulture for the many—kings and queens, bishops and nobles—who were coveting a final resting-place near the hallowed site of St. Joseph's bones. The vault is a flat 4-centred one, and the ribs of the roof, and the shafts supporting them, are curiously and economically constructed from old Norman voussoirs, from some building then being demolished. [The architectural history of this crypt has been fully investigated by Professor Willis, with whose work on Glastonbury, from which the foregoing details are chiefly derived, the visitor should be provided.] A well, "which has attracted more attention than it deserves" as old as the chapel itself, originally outside the chapel walls, and unconnected with it, was discovered by Mr. Reeve in 1825, and is now reached from the crypt. There is no reason for accepting the popular belief of its ever having been "a holy well."

Of the abbey buildings within the precinct walls the only one standing is the magnificent *Abbot's Kitchen*, 33½ ft. sq. within the walls, and 72 ft. high to the top of the lantern, now standing alone, and entered by a gate in St. Magdalene-street. [The key is kept in the house opposite.] This kitchen is a curious specimen of domestic architecture, and of ingenious construction. Externally it is a square building of very massive walls, strongly buttressed; within, the 4 angles are occupied by fire-

places and chimneys, which convert the interior into an octagon. This is surmounted by a stone roof in the shape of an octagonal pyramid, which supports in the centre a double turret or lantern, pierced with an aperture to allow the vapour and heat to pass out. The structure of this open stonework is curious. It is commonly ascribed to Richard Whiting, the last abbot, c. 1524. It is, however, more probable that it was the work of Abbot Breynton, the style belonging to the end of the 14th or the beginning of the 15th century. Pugin assigned it to Abbot Chinnoek, 1374–1420. It was once let to the Quakers as a meeting-house.

The *Abbot's Barn*, of the 14th cent., at the top of Chilwell-st., is perhaps the finest and most richly ornamented of the monastic granaries still remaining. It is cruciform, the transepts forming the entrances; 93 ft. long, with a grand collar-beam roof. The gables present the 4 evangelistic symbols, and have rich traceried triangular windows. The apex of the gable is crowned by the figure of an abbot.

The *Entrance Gateway* for the laity and guests is merged in the *Red Lion Inn*, in St. Mary Magdalene-st. The great gate is hidden by a modern house, erected in 1810; but the vaulted entrance for foot passengers is still accessible. Over it is a small room known as "the stone chamber." There is a good Elizabethan oriel. Passing through the inn, in the yard at the back, there is a small *Alms-house* for women, with a chapel, founded by Abbot Beere. The gateway to the alms-house yard displays the abbot's rose and supporters, with the date 1512. At the W. end of the chapel are the arms of the abbey, a cross flory between 2 roses. The canting device of the founder, jugs of beer, also appears,

Towards the close of Edward VI.'s reign the abbey buildings, then the property of Protector Somerset, afforded a temporary home to a colony of foreign Protestants, weavers of kerseys, driven from Strasburg by the publication of the "Interim," with their pastor Pul-lain, or Valerandus Pollanus, who in 1551 published their order of service in Latin, which supplied some hints to the revisers of the Prayer-Book in 1552. The mercantile speculation proved unfortunate, and the accession of Mary soon broke up the colony, who removed to Frankfort.

The *George Inn*, in High-st., the old pilgrims' hostelry, built by Abbot Selwood, temp. Edw. IV., "is the best piece of domestic work in Glastonbury. The front is one splendid mass of panelling, pierced, where necessary, for windows. The centre is occupied by a 4-centred gateway, with a bay window to l. rising the whole height of the house."—*J. H. P.* The arms above the gate are those of the abbey and of Edw. IV., supported by the black bull of Clare and the white lion of Mortimer. There is a pillar and bracket for the support of the sign. The original newel staircase still gives access to the upper rooms.

A little higher up the street is the *Tribunal*, built by Abbot Beere, as the abbey court-house. The principal room has a wide square-headed window of 8 lights, with a large oriel above.

The town is characterised by Mr. Parker as "a perfect store of domestic antiquities. Small portions," he says, "as late P. doorways, some wood, some stone, wooden windows, and the like, turn up at every step." In addition to those already mentioned, the tourist should see a very rich small timber front, in North-lode-st., l. side, and the *Alms-house* and *Chapel* of St. Mary Magdalene, in the street of the same name. It is an E. E. building, with debased

P. alterations, the original arrangements of which were those of similar mediæval institutions, the nave forming the hall, with the cells for the inmates in the aisles. The nave is now unroofed, but the E. E. chancel remains, with a remarkably good bell-gable figured in Parker's 'Glossary.'

The *Market Cross*, at the junction of the 4 streets, is a feeble Gothic spirelet by Ferrey, erected in 1846 on the site of a picturesque gabled octagonal structure, with central column and pinnacle, and conduit attached (figured in Britton's *Arch. Ant.*), allowed to fall into decay at the beginning of the century.

Glastonbury has 2 churches. The principal is *St. John the Baptist*, the tower of which is considered by Mr. Freeman as the third finest in Somersetshire; surpassed only by Wrington, and St. Cuthbert's, Wells. It rises to a height of 140 ft., in 3 stories, and is richly adorned with canopied niches, and crowned with an open-work parapet and 8 slender pinnacles. The ch. is cruciform, and, like St. Cuthbert's at Wells, originally had a central tower, remains of the piers of which were discovered in the restoration of 1859. It is a fine example of Somersetshire Perpendicular, owing its present form to Abbot John Selwood, 1485. The stone pulpit, designed by Scott, from fragments of an earlier one, was a gift of Lady Charlotte Neville Grenville. The six bells are large, of a fine tone. The church-wardens possess a very handsome mediæval seal.

St. Benedict's (the true dedication being probably St. Benignus), in the street of the same name, is smaller and plainer; but the tower possesses much dignity. The pinnacles, blown down by a hurricane in 1703, have never been restored. The jugs of beer on its battlements

show it to be the work of Abbot Beere, whose initials and mitre appear on the N. porch, which also contains a holy-water stoup. An inscription in the interior records one of the inroads of the sea which have from time to time devastated this district. "The breach of the sea flood was Jan. 20, 1606." Tradition asserts that it reached the tower of this church.

The tourist should now visit *Wirrall Hill*, and the *Tor Hill*; if he has time for only one, choosing the latter. The name *Wirrall* (said to be a Welsh word for a promontory or projecting hill) has been of late days metamorphosed into *Weary-all-Hill*, in connection with the myth that it was here that St. Joseph and his companions, *weary all* with their long pilgrimage, first rested, and the leader of the band planted his hawthorn staff in the ground, which at once struck root and shot forth branches, and in memory of its sacred origin constantly put forth leaves and blossoms on Christmas Day.

This was the famous Glastonbury Thorn, which flourished as one of the chief marvels of the holy site till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when one of its two huge trunks was hacked down by a Puritan, who would have destroyed the other also had not his impious zeal been miraculously checked by one of his blows falling on his own leg, while a chip flying upwards put out his eye. The remaining trunk, the blossoms of which, we are told, were considered such curiosities that Bristol merchants carried them into foreign parts, survived till the Great Rebellion, when "a military saint," undeterred by the ill fate of his predecessor, felled it. The spot where it grew is marked by a stone bearing the letters I. A. A. D. XXXI., commemorating St. Joseph and the date of his supposed visit. Though the original holy thorn has passed

away, the curious visitor may find several successors to its name and virtues in the neighbourhood. According to Withering, it is a distinct variety of the common hawthorn blossoming twice a year. "The winter blossoms," he says, "which are about the size of a sixpence, appear about Christmas, and sooner if the winter be severe." In 1753, when the change of style was made, the thorn was anxiously watched to see whether it would conform to the Act of Parliament, and great was the triumph of opponents of the change when the blossoms which had refused to appear on the new Christmas Day came forth in full luxuriance on the old anniversary, Jan. 5.

Besides the Holy Thorn, Glastonbury boasted of a miraculous walnut-tree that grew near St. Joseph's Chapel, and never shot out leaves till St. Barnabas Day, June 11. A branch of each of these sacred trees was presented to Anne of Denmark, James I.'s queen, by Bp. Montague.

The *Tor Hill*—"the island mount of St. Michael" (*E. A. F.*)—is a more formidable height to scale, being 500 ft. above the sea, and steep at one part. [Follow the Shepton Mallet road from the Barn for 200 yards, and turn off up the hill l. at the Tor Hill Inn. You are then in a straight path for the summit.] The hill is crowned by a beautiful tower, all that is left of a pilgrimage chapel of *St. Michael*, shattered by an earthquake in 1271, and subsequently rebuilt after in the ordinary Somersetshire Perp. type. Over the doorway are 2 rude bas-reliefs—a woman milking a cow, and St. Michael weighing a soul against the devil in a pair of scales. Above are 7 canopied niches, in one of which a figure still remains; below the embattled parapet is another sculptured tablet representing an eagle with outstretched wings. Heavy buttresses support the building. The tower was restored in 1804, when the rubbish

was cleared away and the foundations of the chapel laid bare. To this elevated spot, in 1539, *Whiting*, last abbot of Glastonbury, as already related, was dragged on a hurdle, and hanged. The view here is complete of the Avalonian hills, islanded in the marshes. In their lap lies the town, and behind it is Weary-all. Around the horizon the eye ranges freely, embracing in its view the Bristol Channel, Brent Knoll, the Mendips, and the cathedral of Wells, Sir Samuel Hood's monument on the hill at Butleigh, Alfred's tower on the heights of Wiltshire, the Polden and Quantock hills, Blackdown, Montacute, and Ham Hill. Nearer at hand, below the Tor, to the E., lies *Northwood*, now a farmhouse, but formerly a residence of the abbots, and centred in a deer-park 4 m. in circumference. You may descend the Tor on the N.E. side, visiting *Bushey Coombe* on your way back to the town, which you will re-enter by Chilkwell-street.

In the middle of the last century, Glastonbury regained a short-lived celebrity from its mineral waters, rising at the foot of the Tor. One, Matthew Chancellor, having been cured of an asthma of 30 years' standing in 1751, by drinking of these waters in obedience to a dream, their fame spread, and visitors flocked hither from all parts of the kingdom in such numbers that lodgings could scarcely be procured. A pump-room was built, but the celebrity of the spring soon waned, and the hopes of the inhabitants of a golden harvest passed away. On the E. slope of Wirrall hill are some fields called the *Vineyards*, where grapes were formerly grown for the use of the abbey.

[*Sharpham*, 2 m. to S.W., a manor-house erected by Abbot Beere, and where Abbot Whiting was arrested, was in 1707 the birthplace of Henry Fielding, the author of 'Tom Jones.' He was born in what was known

as "the Harlequin's Chamber," lighted by a small window that is seen over the chapel. What remains of the mansion is now a farmhouse.

Street, 1½ m. S.W. (Pop. of sanitary district, 2514), a long straggling village, of blue lias, taking its name from the Roman road on which it stands, deserves to be visited for the collection of Saurian remains made by the Messrs. Clark, whose large factories of shoes and rugs will also reward inspection.

At Butleigh, 4 m. S. on the road to Somerton (2 m. farther), is

Butleigh Court (R. Neville Grenville, Esq.) This fine mansion has been rebuilt in part (Buckler, *Arch.*). The saloon measures 45 by 25 ft. Among the pictures are a full-length of the Rt. Hon. G. Grenville, the minister, by *Sir Josh. Reynolds*, and, by the same master, the Marchioness of Buckingham and her son, the first Duke. There are also full-lengths of the great Earl of Chatham and his Countess, and other family portraits by *Gainsborough*, *Hoppner*, *Hudson*, &c.

The *Ch.* originally consisted of a long narrow nave and chancel with a groined tower between them, chiefly Dec.; N. and S. transepts have been added, and a N. aisle to the nave. The W. window is a fine Perp. one of 6 lights. The internal fittings are of superior excellence. It contains an epitaph by Southey to the 3 brothers Hood—Arthur, lost in the 'Pomona' in the Caribbean sea, together with Falconer, author of 'The Shipwreck;' Alexander, who sailed round the world with Cook, was killed in the 'Mars,' and was grandfather to Sir A. Acland Hood; and Sir Samuel,

"With Keppel and with Rodney trained,"

who died of fever on the Coromandel coast.

On a commanding position on Polden Hill, a ridge of lias running E. and W., stands a monument to

Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, erected by the subscriptions of his officers.]

[At Glastonbury the tourist should diverge to visit the cathedral and other architectural remains at the city of Wells, 6 m. N.E. He may either take the rly. or follow the causeway constructed across the marshes with the ruins of the abbey.

WELLS (*Hotels*: Swan, Star, Mitre; Pop. 4633) has three rly. stations close to each other to the W. of the city—that of the East Somerset branch of the *Gl. Western*, from Witham on the Yeovil and Weymouth line; that of the Glastonbury branch of the *Somerset and Dorset Rly.*, which joins the Bristol and Exeter line at Highbridge, and the South-Western at Templecombe, and Wimborne, affording communication with the Bristol Channel at Burnham N. and the English Channel at Poole S.; and that of the Cheddar Valley line which joins the Great Western at Yatton.

Wells is a city and municipal borough, market and assize town; abundantly supplied with water from the copious springs which have given it its name; placed in a position of no ordinary beauty in a basin at the foot of the Mendip Hills, whose outliers rise round it like islands. (*Dulcote Hill* may be specially noticed as a detached craggy summit of much beauty.) Wells is perhaps the best example in England of a strictly ecclesiastical city, owing its existence and whatever importance it has had to the religious foundations of which from the time of King Ina (704) it has been the seat. Few towns of its size are so completely destitute of civil history. Happily for its quiet inhabitants, it was not the appanage of any baronial castle; the city itself was never protected by any fortified enclosure, nor does it play any part in the military annals of the country. Neither did it enjoy

any commercial importance. It was not the seat of any considerable manufacture, though at an early date weaving was one of the staple trades, and at a later period silk mills were set on foot. About 250 years back it was noted for boots and shoes, and early in this century many hands were employed in the production of knitted hose. Little manufacture of any kind, except brushes, is now carried on, and the city has a drowsy old-world air.

The only events not strictly ecclesiastical illustrating the annals of Wells are the visit of Henry VII. in 1497, when on his march into the West against Perkin Warbeck; and its occupation by the Duke of Monmouth's forces, July 1685, on their retreat from Philips Norton, when they "tore the lead from the roof of the cathedral to make bullets, and wantonly defaced the ornaments of the building. Grey with difficulty preserved the altar from the insults of some ruffians, who wished to carouse round it, by taking his stand before it with his sword drawn." —*Macaulay*. After the defeat of the insurgents a large number of the prisoners were confined at Wells, where they received daily temporal and spiritual relief from the saintly Ken.

The chief point of interest at Wells is, of course, the *Cathedral*, with the *Bp.'s Palace*, the *Deanery*, the *Vicar's Close*, and the other dependent buildings of the great ecclesiastical establishment, which are here seen in a very unusual state of perfection, rendering this city one of the most interesting in Europe. To the lover of picturesque and architectural beauty it affords no ordinary attractions; indeed, the visitor who comes with a mind attuned to the scene around him will not be slow to accept the somewhat eulogistic character given of Wells as "one of the most beautiful things in the world."

A short walk, with the towers of

the cathedral as our guide, conducts the tourist from the station to the Market Place, whence an ancient gateway, known as "*Penniless Porch*" (from alms having been distributed to the poor there), gives access to the Cathedral Close. But perhaps the best point for approaching the cathedral is "*Brown's Gate*," in Sadler-street, at the N.W. corner of the Cathedral Green. The full grandeur of the W. front is seen from this point. It rises at the end of a smooth, well-kept lawn, bordered with trees; and with its towers, the antique front of the Deanery on the N., and the exquisite Chapter House and Chain Gate to the N.E., forms a group of architectural objects rarely equalled. The *Close* is certainly inferior to that of Salisbury, and is perhaps surpassed by those of Peterborough and Winchester, but few can visit it without being singularly affected by its calm beauty. There is a profound peace about these precincts; the feeble sounds of the little town hushed and softened by distance, and all around breathing a holy calm.

The first ecclesiastical foundation here was a college of secular canons founded by King Ina, 704, and endowed with additional privileges by succeeding Kings of Wessex, until the place was selected as the seat of the new bishopric founded by Edward the Elder for Somerset. The first bishop was Athelm, abbot of Glastonbury, translated to Canterbury, 914. Giso, the 15th in succession from Athelm, recovered after the Conquest the possessions of the see, which, it is said, had been seized by Harold, during the Confessor's lifetime. He replaced the canons who had been expelled, and caused suitable buildings to be erected for them. His successor, John de Vilula, influenced by the desire for safety in times of general disturbance, which had led to the transference of so many cathedrals to walled towns, removed the see to

Bath, which he bought of Hen. I. for 500 pounds of silver, together with the abbey, which he rebuilt from its foundations. This transference naturally gave rise to much jealousy and discord between the men of Bath and Wells, until in the time of his next successor but one, Bishop Robert, 1135-66, it was determined that the bishop should be in future elected by the monks of Bath and the canons of Wells jointly, and should be styled "Bishop of Bath and Wells." Another squabble arose in the time of Bishop Savaric, 1192-1205, with the monks of Glastonbury. Savaric is said to have been a relation of the Emperor Hen. VI. of Germany, and to have received that bishopric from Richard Cœur-de-Lion in return for kindnesses shown to the monarch while in captivity; stipulation having been previously made that the rich abbey of Glastonbury should be annexed to the see, the Bishop resigning the town of Bath to the King. The monks of Glastonbury stoutly resisted this enforced union, and at last on an appeal to Rome, in the episcopate of Bishop Joceline (Trotman), his successor, 1206-1242, obtained its dissolution, on condition of resigning 4 of their best manors to the Bishop. Joceline was one of the greatest benefactors of the see of Wells, having nearly rebuilt the cathedral from the foundations, besides the erection of other buildings, and augmented endowments during his 37 years' episcopate—"God," says Fuller, "to square his great undertakings, giving him a long life to his large heart." Among the subsequent prelates we may mention William de la March, 1293-1302, the instigator of the forced loan, by which before the war in Guienne Edw. I. swept into his exchequer the accumulated wealth of the religious houses of his realm. John Drokenford, 1309-1329, appointed guardian of the realm in 1312 during

the absence of Edw. II. in France, but afterwards attached to Queen Isabella's party. "He took," says an old historian of Wells, "some care of his diocese, but far more of his family." Thos. Beckington, 1443-1464, who emulated William of Wykeham in his love of building, and his architectural skill, his handiwork meeting us at every turn in Wells. Robert Stillington, 1465-1491, Lord High Chancellor 1468, accused of complicity in Simnel's imposture, and imprisoned at Windsor till his death. Oliver King, 1495-1503, the builder of Bath Abbey Church. Cardinal Wolsey, 1518-23. William Barlow, 1548-54, the first married bishop. Archbishop Laud, 1626-28. Thomas Ken, 1684-90, who from his saintly character is now perhaps the most generally remembered of all his predecessors and successors in connection with the see of Bath and Wells; and the intruding Kidder, killed with his wife, as they lay in bed in the palace, by the fall of a stack of chimneys in the great storm commemorated by Defoe, Nov. 26, 1703.

The Saxon cathedral, which had fallen into complete decay, was repaired and partly rebuilt by *Bishop Robert*, 1135-1166. *Bishop Joceline*, 1206-1242, began to rebuild it on a larger scale and with far greater magnificence, retaining, however, a considerable portion of the walls, especially in the choir. Some part of this new church was consecrated by Bishop Joceline himself in 1239. The existing *nave*, the 3 first bays of the *choir*, the *transepts*, the *central tower* as high as the roof, and perhaps the *west front* of the cathedral, are the work of this bishop.

About 1286, during the episcopate of *Bishop Burnell*, 1275-1292, the *crypt* of the chapter-house seems to have been completed, and the *chapter-house* itself is generally assigned to the time of *Bishop William de la Marche*, 1293-1302. In 1321,

under *Bishop Drovensford*, 1309-1329, the *central tower* was raised to its present height; and before 1326 the same bishop had seen the completion of the *choir* by the addition of the 3 easternmost bays, and of the "novum opus," or *Lady-chapel*.

The upper portion of the *S.W. tower* was the work of *Bishop Harewell*, 1366-1386; and the *N.W. tower* was raised by the executors of *Bishop Bubwith*, 1425, who also built the *E. walk* of the *cloister*, with the library over it. The *W. cloister-walk* and part of the *S.* were the work of *Bishop Beckington*, 1443-1464. The latter was completed, soon after Beckington's death, by *Thomas Henry*, treasurer of Wells.

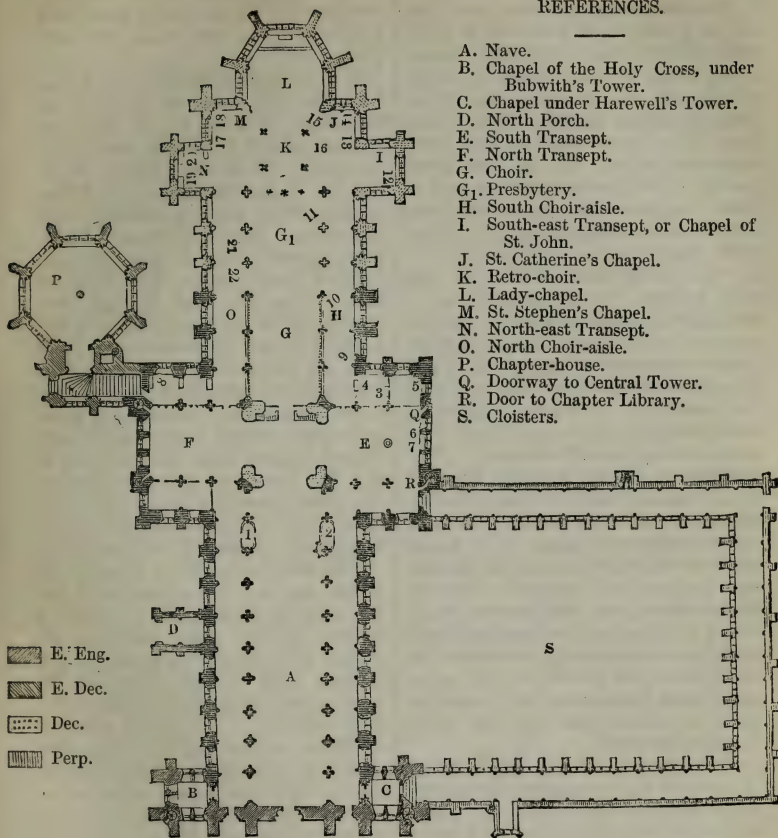
The cathedral displays very rich work of the *E. E.* period, full of local peculiarities, which distinguish it from any other building of its date, in the *nave* and *transepts*; *E. E.* of a more usual type in the *W. front*, and excellent examples of early *Dec.* in *choir*, *Lady-chapel*, and *chapter-house*. "Though one of the smallest, it is perhaps, taken altogether, the most beautiful of English cathedrals. The *W. towers*, above the roof, *clerestory* and *aisle windows*, and *cloisters*, are *Perp.* Externally, its three well-proportioned towers group so gracefully with the *chapter-house*, the remains of the *vicar's close*, the ruins of the *bishop's palace*, and the tall trees by which it is surrounded, that there is no instance so characteristic of English art, nor an effect so pleasing produced with the same dimensions."

—*Fergusson*.

The best near views of the cathedral are from an eminence on the Shepton-Mallet road, about a quarter of a mile from the city, and from the terrace in the garden of the palace. The former view is very striking, and should not be missed. [To gain the spot take a stile to the l., and follow the path to a stile rt.,

REFERENCES.

- A. Nave.
 B. Chapel of the Holy Cross, under Bubwith's Tower.
 C. Chapel under Harewell's Tower.
 D. North Porch.
 E. South Transept.
 F. North Transept.
 G. Choir.
 G₁. Presbytery.
 H. South Choir-aisle.
 I. South-east Transept, or Chapel of St. John.
 J. St. Catherine's Chapel.
 K. Retro-choir.
 L. Lady-chapel.
 M. St. Stephen's Chapel.
 N. North-east Transept.
 O. North Choir-aisle.
 P. Chapter-house.
 Q. Doorway to Central Tower.
 R. Door to Chapter Library.
 S. Cloisters.



REFERENCES.

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| 1. Bp. Bubwith's Chantry. | 8. Tomb of Bp. Cornish. | 16. Bp. Button I. |
| 2. Dean Sugar's Chantry. | 9. Monument of Bp. Button II. | 17. Bp. Savaricus. |
| 3. Dean Husee's Tomb. | 10. Effigy of Beckington. | 18. Bp. Ailwin. |
| 4. Part of Beckington's Chantry. | 11. Effigy of Bp. Harewell. | 19. Dean Forrest's Tomb. |
| 5. Tomb of Chancellor Storthwit. | 12. Dean Gunthorpe's Tomb. | 20. Bp. Creighton. |
| 6. Monument of Lady de Lisle. | 13. Bp. Buruhwold. | 21. Bp. Giso. |
| 7. Monument of Bishop de la Marchia. | 14. Bp. Dudoc. | 22. Effigy of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury. |
| | 15. Bp. Drokensford's Monument. | * Altar. |

which leads into the coppice whence the view is obtained.]

The cathedral, with the exception of its pilasters of Purbeck, is built with stone from Doulting, about 7 m. from Wells. These quarries, which are still worked, are in the inferior oolite, and the stone differs but little from that of the Bath quarries, which are in the great oolite. The quarry which is said to have supplied the stone for both Wells and Glastonbury is called "St. Andrew's."

"The *West front* of Wells," says old Fuller, "is a masterpiece of art indeed, made of imagery in just proportion, so that we may call them '*vera et spirantia signa.*' England affordeth not the like. For although the west end of Exeter beginneth accordingly, it doth not, like Wells, persevere to the end thereof." "The sculptures of its western façade," says a modern critic, "are quite unrivalled; and with the architectural accompaniments make up a whole such as can only be found at Rheims or Chartres."—*Fergusson*. The varied outlines, the numberless sculptures, and the slender detached shafts which stretch upward tier above tier, still make the façade of this cathedral more interesting and more impressive than that of any other English cathedral.

The breadth of the W. front of Wells (147 ft.) is considerably greater than that of the fronts of either Nôtre-Dame (136 ft.) or of Amiens (116 ft.), both of them contemporary buildings.

Notwithstanding the marked difference in architectural character between the W. front and the interior of the nave, it is sufficiently clear that both were included in the original design. The whole of the foundations were laid at the same time; and the lower courses of stone, including the basement mouldings, are continuous, without any break, to the height of about 10 ft. from

the ground. Above that height there is a change, and it is doubtful whether the W. front was proceeded with before the aisle walls, or otherwise.

In both style of work and in actual date, the W. front of Wells is intermediate between the W. fronts of Lincoln and of Salisbury (completed in 1258). It is throughout of decidedly E. E. character, and differs in the most marked manner from the nave. Hence Professor Willis has suggested that it was not commenced until after the death of Bishop Joceline, and it may very possibly have been erected by a different body of workmen from those—in all probability belonging to a local school—who built the nave and aisles. Mr. Irvine on the other hand has, after careful examination, convinced himself that the erection of the W. front was prior to that of the nave, standing for a time distinct and unsupported, the nave being built afterwards behind it.

The front consists of a centre, in which are the three lancets of the W. window, and above them a screen to the gable receding in stages, with small pinnacles at the angles; and of two wings or W. towers, projecting beyond the nave, as at Salisbury. The upper portions of these towers are of Perp. character, and, from the design, never having been completed, have a somewhat truncated appearance. The three W. doors are unusually small, a great defect in this otherwise matchless front. Six buttresses, at the angles of which are slender shafts of Purbeck marble, supporting canopies, divide the entire front into five portions.

The identification of the "*populus statuarum*" which throng the front of the cathedral is still most uncertain, notwithstanding the labour bestowed on the subject by the late Mr. Cockerell.* Below the central

* Iconography of Wells Cathedral.

gable six tiers of sculpture may be recognised, all of which encircle the N.W. tower. The *first*, or lowest, now nearly empty in front, consisted of full-length figures under canopies. The *second* is a series of small quatrefoils, in which are angels variously arranged. The *third* contains a series of subjects from the Old and New Testaments. The *fourth* and *fifth* tiers are of full-length statues; and the *sixth* exhibits the final resurrection in a series of small figures of most remarkable character and design. The three stages of the *central gable* have statues representing the celestial hierarchy, the Twelve Apostles, and above all, the Saviour in Majesty. Only the feet of this last figure remain.

In the tympanum within the porch is the Virgin seated on a throne, treading on a serpent, and supporting the Divine Infant, displaying remains of colour. In a niche above this porch is a coronation of the Virgin; the heads of the figures are destroyed.

The number of figures on the entire W. front is upwards of 300, of which 152 are either life-size or colossal. Of the larger figures 21 are crowned kings, 8 crowned queens, 31 mitred ecclesiastics, 7 armed knights, and 14 princes or nobles; the ecclesiastics being to the S. of the central door, the laymen and females to the N. But "amongst all the historical statues not one can now be identified, and but one (Edward the Martyr) with any probability guessed at."

The *third* tier of sculpture contains medallions with subjects from the Old and New Testaments; the Old on the S. of the central porch, the New on the N. Both commence from the porch, and are divided by the niche containing the coronation of the Virgin. On the S. the subjects still remaining are—The Creation of Man. The Creation of Woman. The Garden of Eden. The Temptation.

[Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

The Almighty in the Garden. Adam and Eve at Labour. Cain's Sacrifice. The Sentence. Noah Building the Ark. The Ark itself. The Sacrifice on Ararat. Isaac and Rebecca. Isaac's Blessing. The Death of Jacob.

On the N. are—St. John the Baptist. The Nativity. Christ among the Doctors. St. John in the Wilderness. Mission of the Apostles. Christ in the Wilderness. Christ Preaching. The Anointing. The Transfiguration.—(Proceeding round the tower, on the north side): The Mount of Olives. The Calling of Nicodemus. The Entry into Jerusalem. The Consultation with the High Priest. The Last Supper. Christ before Pilate. The Bearing of the Cross. Elevation of the Cross. The Deposition. The Resurrection. The Gift of Tongues.

A very high value as works of art was attached to the sculptures at Wells by Flaxman, who selected the death of Jacob, the figure of St. John, and the creation of Eve for the beauty of their composition, and made from them careful drawings. "The work," he says, "is necessarily ill-drawn and deficient in principle, and much of the sculpture is rude and severe; yet in parts there is a beautiful simplicity, an irresistible sentiment, and sometimes a grace excelling more modern productions."

The *sixth* tier of sculpture contains 92 compositions of the General Resurrection. "Startling in significance, pathos, and expression," says Mr. Cockerell, "worthy of John of Pisa, or of a greater man, John Flaxman." The whole will repay the artist's most careful examination.

The figures of angels in the first stage of the central gable represent the 9 orders of the celestial hierarchy. In the stage above are figures of the apostles, St. Andrew and St. John occupying the two central niches, immediately under the feet of the Saviour; and in the uppermost stage

was the Saviour in Majesty, supported on either side by the Virgin and St. John. The circles of the sun and moon, attended by smaller stars, occupy the spandrels above the central niche.

The bending of the quatrefoiled recesses round the angles is a defect in this generally beautiful composition; but Professor Willis has truly observed that what looks "strained and stiff now that they are empty, was elegantly relieved when they were filled with sculpture."

Passing round the N.W. angle of the building, the visitor should now inspect the *north porch* (B), the architectural character of which differs from that of the west front, although it belongs, like it, to the E. Eng. period. It was apparently the work of that local company of artists by whom, according to Professor Willis, the nave itself was built. The entrance is deeply recessed, and with the inner door has the zigzag ornament among its interlacing mouldings, an indication of lingering Norman traditions. The dripstone is formed of a very beautiful combination of E. Eng. foliage. Square panels on either side of the arch contain figures of mystic animals, one of which is a cockatrice. In the gable above a small triplet gives light to a parvise chamber. From the flat and narrow buttresses at the angles rise slender spire-capped pinnacles. The interior walls are lined with a double arcade, the upper more deeply recessed than the lower. The vault springs from groups of triple shafts. The capitals on the E. side possibly represent the death of King Edmund the Martyr (A.D. 870)—bound to a tree as a mark for the Danish arrows, and afterwards beheaded.

The walls of both nave and aisles are capped by a Dec. parapet. The windows of the aisles and clerestory are Perp. The picturesque grouping of the transept, the chapter-house with its staircase, and the *Chain-gate*

with the Gallery above it, leading to the *Vicar's Close*, should here be especially noticed. On the W. buttress of the N. transept is the face of the *clock*, with the motto "Ne quid pereat." Two figures in armour of the 15th centy. strike the quarters with their battle-axes.

The visitor should go through this gate and proceed some little distance along the road for the sake of the view of the stately Central Tower, Chapter House, Lady Chapel, and the E. portions of the cathedral. The difference of style between the 3 E. and 3 W. bays of the choir is here plainly, and, we may add, disagreeably, discernible. In the clerestory of the latter, very plain Dec. windows with simple intersecting mullions have been inserted some distance below the original E. Eng. window arch to range with those of the E. portion, which are rich Dec. with ogee canopies. Another unpleasing distinction is that in the E. bays, the high-pitched roof of the aisles is discontinued, and the clerestory windows are brought down to the level of the parapet.

The *Lady-chapel*, one of the most beautiful examples of Dec. in England, has a plan of singular complication. It is an irregular octagon with very fine 5-light Dec. windows, the heads filled with a rich succession of trefoiled triangles, on 5 sides, and is connected with the choir by a low E. transept, which breaks the outline in a very pleasing manner. The chapel is singular in standing entirely clear of the choir, and rising higher than the aisles. The best view of this portion of the ch., one of the most extraordinary beauty and interest, is that from the open space on the S.E., near which are the springs of usually clear crystalline water—the *wells* from which the city took its name.

The *Central Tower*, rich in ornament, and excellent in proportions, displays a later masking of an earlier

work. Each face is of 3 bays, with ogee lights, divided by small pin-naclled buttresses, and spire-crowned turrets at the corners.

Returning through the Chain Gate to the W. front, the visitor may now enter the *Nave* (A), restored by Ferrey 1842, which is of excellent proportions. Its chief defect is the continuous line of the triforium arcade, unbroken by vaulting shafts, thus severing the elevation into 3 distinct horizontal divisions.

The visitor should immediately take his place at the extreme W. end, from which point an excellent general view is obtained.

The huge inverted arches beneath the tower, dating from 1337, when it was found necessary to provide additional support for the enormous weight of the superstructure, at once attract the attention. Designedly or not, they form the cross of St. Andrew, the patron saint of the cathedral. The view into the choir is injuriously intercepted by these arches. It is easy to see marks of the crushing process, due to the weight of the tower, in the nave arcade. The string-courses have been dragged down, and the E. arch on each side entirely reconstructed. The nave is 38 ft. wide between the columns, 82 ft. from wall to wall, including the aisles. The length, from the W. door to the choir, is 192 ft., the height 67 ft.

This nave, commenced by *Bishop Joceline* (1206–1244), and built throughout during the E. Eng. period, offers some very remarkable peculiarities. “By many this structure would be designated as an E. Eng. cathedral; but Wells evidently is only a little removed from the Norman style; it is only an improved Norman design, worked with considerable ornament: the mouldings in particular are of an especial richness. The E. E. style of architecture originally (in all probability) came from the French, and

there must have been in this district a school of masons who continued working with their own companions, in their own style, long after the E. E. style was introduced and practised in this country.”—*Willis*. The cause probably was the possession of good stone in the district.

The whole of the nave is of this character, but a careful examination will show 2, if not 3, very distinct periods in the masonry and details. The heads of a king and bishop, which project on the S. side, between the 4th and 5th piers (counting from the W.), mark the point of change. These differences seem to prove that the work was begun at both ends, and that the central division is the latest. All may be accepted as the work of Bishop *Joceline*.

The nave is of 10 bays, divided by octangular piers, with clustered shafts in groups of 3. The capitals are enriched with E. E. foliage, much of which is of unusually classical character—one of the many indications of a lingering local school with its Norman traditions. Birds, animals, and monsters of various forms twine and perch among the foliage. Above the pier-arches runs the triforium, very deeply set, extending to the interior of the triforium gallery. The narrow lancet openings are arranged in groups of 3, with thick wall-plates between them. The head of each lancet is filled with a solid tympanum, displaying foliage and grotesques, of which those toward the upper end of the S. side are especially curious. Triple shafts, with enriched capitals, form the vaulting-shafts, the corbels supporting which deserve examination. A clerestory window (the tracery is Perp., inserted by Bishop Beckington, 1443–1464) opens between each bay of the vaulting, which is groined, with moulded ribs, and bosses of foliage at the intersections. The interlacing pattern in red, traced on the vaulting,

is a restoration of the original design discovered on the removal of the whitewash.

In the central bay, S. of the nave, level with the clerestory, is the *music gallery*, of early Perp. character, the front divided into 3 panels, with large quatrefoils containing shields.

The W. end and window are best seen from the upper part of the nave, under the tower-arches. The lower part of the wall presents an arcade of 5 arches, of which the central arch, wider than the rest, is pierced for the double W. door. The window above is a triplet, divided by triple shafts, springing from the wall without bases. These shafts have Perp. mouldings, and there is a Perp. parapet at the sill, indicating that this part of the interior was partially rebuilt during the 15th cent., although the original design was not altered.

The cinque-cento *glass* in this window was principally collected on the continent by Dean Creighton (afterwards bishop, 1670–1672). It illustrates the life (legendary as well as authentic) of St. John the Baptist, and was brought partly from Rouen and partly from Cologne. The date 1507 is traceable on one of the lights. The figures of King Ina and of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury are Perp., and possibly formed part of the glazing toward which Bishop Harewell, about 1385, gave 100 marks.

The *side aisles* are of the same character as the nave, and the same two periods may be traced in them. The windows, like those of the clerestory, were filled with Perp. tracery by Bishop Beckington.

Opening from the aisles are *chapels* in the two W. towers (B, c), both true E. E., with the same ringed shafts as on the exterior. The S.W. tower contains a peal of eight bells, and a doorway opens from it into the W. walk of the cloisters. In the N.W. tower is the chapel of the Holy

Cross, now used as the Consistory Court.

The beautiful *chantries* between the 2nd and 3rd piers (counting from the E.) are those of Bishop Bubwith and Dr. Hugh Sugar. The screen-work and cornices of *Bishop Bubwith's chantry* (1), d. 1424, on the N. side, are of extreme grace and delicacy. The arms of the bishop appear on the interior of the chantry, all the details of which are well worth examination.

To the S. the chantry of *Hugh Sugar* (2) d. 1489, Treasurer of Wells, and one of Bishop Beckington's executors, although of the same general character as Bishop Bubwith's, exhibits many indications of a later style. The fan-tracery of the roof, and the canopied niches above the altar, deserve notice. On the cornice are angels (compare those on Bishop Beckington's chantry) bearing shields with the five sacred wounds, the cypher of the founder, his arms, 3 sugar-loaves surmounted by a doctor's cap, and the arms of Glastonbury Abbey.

The *stone pulpit*, adjoining the chantry, was the work of Bishop *Knight* (1541–1547), who is buried near it. On the front is his shield of arms. The inscription surrounding it runs, "Preache thou the worde; be fervent in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort, in all long-soffryng and doctryne. II Tim."

From the nave we pass into the *Transept*. Both transepts are E. E., but earlier than the nave. Both have E. and W. aisles, with 3 windows at the N. and S. ends, and a triplet in the place of the clerestory. In each the triforium is arranged in groups of 2 openings, and has none of the rich ornamentation which it displays in the nave. The vaulting-shafts spring from corbels below the triforium between each 2 openings.

The *capitals* of the piers in both transepts display great richness and variety, but those in the S. transept

are especially curious and interesting. On the *first* pier of the W. aisle remark the small figure of Elias (Moses, with the tablets of the law, is similarly placed in the opposite transept). On the *second* pier is a figure extracting a thorn from the foot, a man with the toothache, and other grotesque subjects. The *third* pier tells a story at length. Beginning at the side nearest the S. window, we have, 1. two men stealing grapes from a vineyard; 2. the discovery of the theft by the vine-dressers, one of whom carries a pitchfork; 3. one of the thieves is caught by the ear, and threatened with the pitchfork; and 4. the second is caught and receives castigation with the pitchfork. The spirit and expression of all these sculptures are admirable.

The E. aisle of the S. transept is divided into two chapels, with Dec. windows. The chapel of *St. Calixtus*, nearest the choir, contains the monument, with effigy, of Dean *Husee* (3), d. 1305. The eight panels in front of the tomb display alternately shields and sculptured figures, the latter representing the Annunciation and the Eternal Father holding the crucifix. Between are three figures of ecclesiastics with books. The screen and canopy above are Perp.

Against the E. end of this chapel is placed a portion of the chantry with a very elaborate canopy, of Bishop *Beckington* (4) (d. 1464), unwisely removed from the choir-aisle. It has been richly coloured. The vine-carving of the cornice should be remarked, as well as the ironwork, which formed part of the original chantry, and now divides this chapel from the choir-aisle.

In the chapel, called *St. Martin's*, and now used as the canons' vestry, is the tomb, with effigy, of *John Storthwit* (5), Chancellor of Wells (d. 1454). The canopy is much enriched. At the back are traces of a door which opened to the former

Lady-chapel, and the chapel of Bishop *Stillington*, destroyed soon after its erection.

Among the monuments against the S. wall of the transept is that of *Joanna, Vicountess Lisle* (6), d. 1464, an arched canopy, with remains of rich painting, discovered in 1809, and the inscription restored (Lady Lisle was the daughter of Thomas Cheddar. Her husband was the son of John Talbot, the celebrated Earl of Shrewsbury, under whom he served in France, and was killed at the battle of Chatillon, 1453); and that of Bishop *William de la Marche* (7) (d. 1302). The effigy lies in a recess below the central window, enclosed in front by a screen of three open arches with rich canopies. The canopy has been richly coloured.

The *font* in this transept is late Norm. A door in the S.W. angle leads to the cloisters; a smaller one (R) to the chapter library; and one in the S.E. angle to the central tower.

The N. trans. is of precisely the same architectural character as the S. All the sculptures—the capitals of the piers and the corbels of the vaulting-shafts—should be noticed. On the *capitals* remark the figure of Moses.

The W. aisle of this transept is closed by a heavy screen of Perp. date, and was divided into two chapels. In the E. aisle (which has Decorated windows, and, like that in the S. trans., is probably altogether of later date) are the tombs of Bp. *Still*, d. 1607: the effigy vested in scarlet; Bishop *Kidder*, killed in the great storm, 1703, his wife and daughter; and *Thomas Cornish* (8), d. 1513, “*Tinensis Episcopus*,” titular bishop of Tenos in the Archiepiscopal, and suffragan of Bath and Wells from 1486 to 1513. Adjoining this tomb is a door opening to the chapter-house staircase.

In the transept stands a large *lectern* of brass, the gift of Dean Creighton, afterwards bishop. The

inscription runs:—"Dr. Robert Creyghton, upon his returne from 15 years exile with our soveraigne lord King Charles II., made Deane of Wells in the yeare 1660, gave this brazen deske with God's holy worde thereon to the saide Cathedrall Church."

The very curious *clock* in this transept was originally the work of Peter Lightfoot, a monk of Glastonbury, about 1325, somewhat earlier than that in the cathedral of Exeter. The faces of both show the hour of the day, the age of the moon, and the position of the planets. Above the dial-plate is a platform, on which are four mounted figures, which formerly, as the clock proclaimed the hour, started into action and hurried rapidly round. Their movements are now exhibited only for the gratification of visitors, but the quarters are still struck by a sitting figure in the N.W. angle, which uses its heels for the purpose. The works of this clock are entirely new.

The *inverted arches*, supporting the central tower, may be examined before entering the choir. The effect as seen from the nave-aisles and from the angles of the transepts, is singular, but far from agreeable. The enormous support and strength afforded by them is, however, evident. The tower itself is of E. Eng. date as far as the roofs. In 1318 the canons voluntarily taxed themselves to the extent of a fifth part of their income in order to raise this tower, which was accordingly carried up three more stages, and completed in 1321. In 1337 and 1338 convocations were called in great dismay on account of a settlement in the work of the tower, which had caused extensive fractures or cracks. In order to remedy this, the double arches were inserted; the original arches were patched and filled in with large blocks of stone; and the adjoining arches of the triforium were blocked

up to transmit part of the weight in a lateral direction. The fan-tracery of the vault is Perp., and probably the work of Bishop Beckington.

The *choir-screen*, Dec., has been enlarged in order to support the organ. The entrances to the *choir-aisles*, very beautiful late Dec., should especially be noticed. The *organ*, originally built in 1664, under the direction of Dean, afterwards Bp., Creyghton (himself a musician of no common order, whose services and anthems are still in use) was entirely rebuilt, enlarged, and improved by Willis in 1848.

The *choir* (G) was restored under the [direction of Mr. Salvin, 1848-1854. The stone stalls, pulpit, and the arrangements about the altar, are entirely new; the lierne vaulting of very unusual pattern has been decorated in polychrome.

The first 3 piers and arches of the choir are E. E., of the same character as those of the nave and transepts, and are probably the work of Bishop Joceline. In all probability these 3 bays formed a presbytery, the ritual choir occupying the space under the tower, and 3 bays of the nave. The eastern portion, including the whole of the vaulting, as well as the face of the triforium and clerestory above the first 3 bays, is an addition in rich early Dec. (geometrical). An entry among the chapter muniments—from which it appears that in 1325 the canons commenced the erection of new stalls, each canon agreeing to pay for his own stall out of his own resources—seems to establish a date for this portion of the choir, which was probably nearly completed in that year.

The tabernacle-work, masking the E. E. triforium which remains behind, and the window-tracery of the first 3 bays, although of the same date, are less rich than those of the eastern half of the choir. In this latter portion remark the triple-banded

shafts of Purbeck, carried quite to the roof as vaulting-shafts, and the tabernacle-work occupying the place of the triforium, deeper and wider than in the lower bays. Under each arch is a short triple shaft, supporting a bracket richly carved in foliage, which has evidently been studied from nature.

The E. end of the choir is formed by 3 arches, supported by slender piers, above which is some very rich tabernacle work, surmounted by an E. window of unusual design. At the back of the altar, and between the piers, is a low diapered screen, beyond which are seen the arches and stained windows of the retro-choir and Lady-chapel. This screen is part of the new work, and the excellent effect obtained by it—at once revealing and concealing the portions beyond it—is singularly picturesque. The modern encaustic tiles and the brass altar-rail should also be noticed.

The *choir-stalls* are entirely modern, and are arranged in groups of 5 within each arch, and not, as in ancient arrangements, in front of them unbrokenly. Though greater width is thus gained for the choir, the novelty is hardly to be commended.

The old *misereres* are replaced in the lower seats. They are early Dec., and exhibit the usual grotesques and foliage.

The *pulpit*, carved from a solid block of freestone, was the gift of Dean Jenkyns and his wife in 1853. The *bishop's throne*, surmounted by a canopy in three compartments, is said to have been erected by Bishop Beckington about 1450, but is probably earlier.

Of the *stained glass* in the choir, that in the E. and 2 adjoining windows is ancient, dating from the early part of the 14th centy. (about 1330), and is therefore the original glazing; the choir itself, it has already been seen, was ap-

proaching completion in 1325. The E. window is of singular design. The lower lights are filled with a stem of Jesse, terminating, as at Bristol, with our Saviour on the Cross, and the tracery lights with a representation of the Day of Judgment. The central figure in the lower line is that of Jesse, the others are not easily distinguished. The first figure in the upper line is unknown. The remaining six are—Abraham, David—in the centre the Virgin and Child—Solomon, Daniel, and Uzziah.

The clerestory windows had originally a figure and canopy in each of their lower lights. "One of the figures, in the north window next the east, represents St. George, helmeted, and clad in a surcoat which reaches to the knee. The rest of his person is defended with mail. The costume of this figure appears to harmonise with the date assigned to the glass. In the tracery lights of this window is a continuation of the Judgment in the east window."—*Winston*.

The *S. choir-aisle*, which we now enter from the transept, is of the same architectural character as the choir, the first three bays being E. E., and the rest Dec. The tracery of the windows, however, is throughout late Dec. (curvilinear). All the windows contain fragments of stained glass, of various dates, but of no very especial interest.

Against the wall of the choir, near the W. end of the aisle, is a low coffin-shaped slab of Purbeck, with an incised episcopal effigy. This is the monument of Bishop *Button II.* (9), d. 1274, whose life was one of great sanctity, and whose reputation, after death, as a curer of the toothache, rivalled that of St. Apollonia. His tomb was resorted to from all parts of the diocese. This (with the exception perhaps of two figures of abbots at St. Denys, which may date about 1260) is the most ancient example of an incised slab which has

been noticed either in England or on the continent.

Above is the effigy of Bishop *Beckington* (10), d. 1464, the great benefactor of Wells. The canopy under which it formerly lay, which the bishop had constructed for himself, projected into the choir, and was removed during the late restorations to the chapel of St. Calixtus. It is much to be regretted that it should have been found necessary to interfere at all with the last resting-place of so distinguished a prelate. The monument consists of two stages. On the upper is the effigy of the bishop; on the lower an emaciated figure in a winding-sheet, the *memento mori* so much in favour at this period. The whole shows remains of colour. The ironwork enclosing the monument is decorated with small heads, and should be noticed. It was to this chantry that the mayor and corporation of Wells used to repair in solemn procession annually, in order to pray for the repose of the bishop, who had done so much for them and for their city.

Beyond this tomb is the effigy of Bishop *Harewell* (11), d. 1386, sufficiently identified by the 2 hares at the feet.

In the *Chapel of St. John the Evangelist* (1), forming the short E. transept opening from this aisle, is the plain altar-tomb of Dean *Gunthorpe* (12), d. 1475, who built the more ancient portions of the existing deanery. In the centre of the transept is a very beautiful coped monument, by Forsyth, of Dean *Jenkyns* (d. 1854) and his wife.

The Dec. piscina, with its canopy, at the E. end of this transept, should be noticed. At the angle between the transept and the retro-choir is a monument with effigy, possibly that of Bishop *Button I.* (16), d. 1269. It retains traces of colour.

Against the S. wall of *St. Catherine's Chapel* (5), eastward of the

transept, are 2 effigies of early bishops, both of E. E. character (as is evident from the foliage and details), and assigned to the mythical Bishop *Burhwold* (13), c. 1000, and Bishop *Duduc* (14), 1059. In the N. choir-aisle are 3 other effigies of very similar character, and to all appearance of the same date. In the crypt of the chapter-house are 2 more. It is not impossible that under Bishop *Joceline* and his successors, by whom the E. E. portions of the cathedral were built, a series of monuments were erected for the earlier bishops.

At the end of this chapel is a sitting figure by *Chantrey* of John *Phelips, Esq.*, of Montacute. The glass in the window above it is fragmentary, but very rich in colour.

Near the early bishops is the tomb, with a lofty, shrine-like canopy, of Bishop *Drokensford* (15), d. 1329, during whose episcopate, in all probability, the choir and Lady-chapel were completed. The grace and beauty of the canopy are especially noticeable, as well as the delicate carving of all its details. The E. portion has been recently decorated in colour.

The beauty of the *retro-choir*, or "procession aisle," the arrangement of its piers and clustered columns, and the admirable manner in which it unites the Lady-chapel with the choir, should here be remarked. It is throughout early Dec. The 4 supporting pillars and shafts are placed *within* the line of the choir-piers, thus producing the unusual intricacy and variety of the eastward view from the choir.

The *Lady-chapel* (1), a building of the very best age, and of extreme beauty, forms a pentagonal apse, in each side of which is a large window filled with early Dec. (geometrical) tracery. The Lady-chapel is nearly of the same date as the choir, and was certainly completed in 1326. The rich vaulted roof, springing

from triple shafts at the angles, and the reredos, of the same character as the tabernacle-work in the choir, should be noticed. An arcade runs below the windows. The Lady-chapel, like the nave and transepts, was restored by Mr. Ferrey. The pavement is of encaustic tiles, and contains the brass of Dean Goodenough, d. 1845.

The *stained glass* with which the windows are filled is of the same date as the ancient glass in the choir. Except the E. window, it is a confused mass of fragments, the colouring of which, however, is superb. The E. window has been restored by Willement. The tracery-lights are filled with angels bearing the instruments of the Passion.

At the extreme end of the *N. choir-aisle*, in *St. Stephen's Chapel* (M), are two effigies, assigned to Bishop *Living* (17), d. 1012, and Bishop *Ethelwyn* (18), c. 1023.

In the small *N.E. transept* (N) are the tombs of Dean *Forrest* (19) with effigy (d. 1446); of Chancellor *Milton*, c. 1337; and of Bishops *Berkeley*, d. 1584, and *Creyghton* (20), d. 1672. Some fragments of the original tiles remain, and a sculpture of the Ascension has been removed here from the cloister.

Against the wall of the choir is an effigy, with E. E. foliage and details, assigned to Bishop *Giso* (21), d. 1088. It belongs to the same period as those in the opposite aisle. Below it is the fine effigy of Bishop *Ralph of Shrewsbury* (22), d. 1363. Remark the *infula*, or fillet twisted round the staff of the crozier, and the large jewelled ornaments at the back of the gloves.

A low door on the N. side of this aisle opens to a vaulted passage leading to the *crypt* of the *Chapter-house*, of much earlier date than the superstructure. The passage is lighted by 3 small windows. A stone lanthorn in the wall, on the rt. near the door

of the crypt itself, should be noticed. This door, which opens inward, is covered with fine old ironwork.

Like the chapter-house itself, the crypt is octangular; and an octagonal pier surrounded by circular shafts rises in the centre. The vaulting-ribs which spring from these shafts rest again on 8 round pillars, about 6 ft. high, and placed at no great distance from the central pier. A second series of arched vaultings is carried from the pillars to brackets between the narrow windows, 12 in number. Close within the door is a curious piscina, in the hollow of which is sculptured a dog gnawing a bone.

Here are preserved 2 effigies of early bishops, both of E. E. character, and resembling those already noticed. Here are also an ancient cope chest; a wooden lanthorn, said to have been brought from Glastonbury; and the old works of the Glastonbury clock, and other antiquities.

From the E. aisle of the N. transept a door opens to the fine staircase which ascends to the *Chapter-house*. It is lighted by 2 geometrical windows, W. The corbels supporting the first vaulting-shafts on either side, representing a monk and a nun trampling on serpents, should be noticed. The staircase is not unworthy of the magnificent chapter-house to which it leads, the finest example of its date in England. It is generally assigned to the episcopate of William de la Marche (1293-1302), and is, at all events, nearly of this date, being throughout early Dec. (geometrical).

Like the crypt below, the chapter-house is octagonal, and has a central pier with 16 shafts, from which the ribs of the vaulting radiate. The windows, 8 in number, are filled with very fine geometrical tracery, and surrounded by hollow mouldings enriched with the ball-flower. Some fragments of stained glass remain,

among which are the arms of Mortimer, and of France and England, quarterly. Below the windows an arcade runs round the walls. At the springs of the arches are sculptured heads full of expression, kings, bishops, monks, ladies, jesters; and at the angles, grotesques of various kinds.

The double arches at the entrance show traces of a door on the exterior. Remark the curious boss in the vaulting, composed of 4 bearded faces. The diameter of the chapter-house is 50 ft., its height 41 ft. Its unusual features are—its separation from the cloisters, from which the chapter-house generally opens; and its crypt or lower story, which rendered necessary the staircase by which it is approached.

Beyond the chapter-house the staircase ascends, through a Perp. doorway, to the gallery over the *Chain-gate*, built 1459 by Bishop Beckington, which connects the *Vicars' College* with the cathedral. Through the gallery the vicars could pass from their own close into the cathedral. The *common hall* of their college opens from it.

Returning to the cathedral, the visitor may ascend the *central tower* 182 ft. high, by a staircase opening from the S.E. angle of the S. transept. A magnificent view is commanded from the roof. The position of the cathedral, rising from the centre of the valley, is perhaps better understood from here than from any other point.

A doorway in the same transept leads to the *chapter library*, built over the E. walk of the cloister by the executors of Bishop *Bubwith*, c. 1425, and said to have been largely furnished with books by Bishop *Lake* (1616-1626). It now contains about 3000 volumes, among which are many that belonged to Bishop Ken, and were left by him to his former cathedral. His own copy of Bishop Andrewes' 'Devotions' is here, as well as a large

and important collection of pamphlets relating to the public events of his time. Other treasures of the library are—the Aldine edition of Aristotle, with the autograph and manuscript notes of Erasmus; the *Etymologicon* of Isidorus, a manuscript of the 14th centy., &c. A great number of iron chains, by which the volumes were formerly attached to the desks, are preserved here.

From the S.W. angle of the transept we pass into the *cloisters* which, as at Chichester and Hereford, have only 3 sides or walks, instead of 4, as the canons of Wells were not monks, they did not require a cloister in the ordinary sense. This is merely an ornamental walk round the cemetery. It did not lead to either dormitory, refectory, or chapter-house. It served as a passage to the bishop's palace; and the wall of the E. walk is E. E. of the same date as the palace itself. From this walk a chapel opened, now destroyed, traces of which are seen in the interruption of the stone bench, and the rich panelling of the arch on the outside. The rest of the E. walk was built by the executors of Bishop *Bubwith*; the W. by Bishop Beckington, who also commenced the S. side, which was completed soon after his death by Treasurer Henry. The lavatory in the E. walk should be remarked, as well as the grotesque bosses of the roof in the portion built by Bishop Beckington. Over the W. cloister is the Chapter Grammar-school. The central space is known as the "Palm Churchyard," from the yew-tree in its centre, the branches of which were formerly carried in procession as palms.

The mural tablets and monuments removed from the cathedral have been arranged on the walls of the cloisters.

From the S.E. angle of the cloisters the visitor may proceed to the *Bishop's Palace*, surrounded by a moat fed from St. Andrew's or the

"bottomless well," and defended by walls and bastions capable of sustaining a long siege by a mediæval enemy. Both walls and moat were the work of Bp. Ralph of Shrewsbury (1329-1365).

The *Bishop's Palace* was originally built by Bishop Joceline, 1205-1244, in the form of a quadrangle, the present house forming the E. side. On the N. were the kitchen and offices, which have been much altered and partly rebuilt; on the S. the chapel, rebuilt by Bishop Bunnell, 1274-1292; on the W. was a curtain wall and gatehouse, now destroyed. The present *Gatehouse* through which the visitor enters the palace is plain 14th-cent. work, with square flanking turrets, a groined entrance, the chains of a drawbridge, and the grooves of a portcullis, built by Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury, 1337-1340. On passing under the vaulted archway the visitor has in front the ruins of the *Great Hall*, and the restored chapel, and the habitable part of the palace to the l. The main building of the palace, the work of Bishop Joceline, remains to a great extent as originally built, though with many minor alterations and adaptations, including the upper story with gabled dormers, added to the W. front by Bishop Bagot, 1840. It consists of a long parallelogram divided lengthwise at about one-half of its width by a solid wall; the narrower portion forming the entrance vestibule below, and a gallery above. The whole of the basement story is vaulted throughout with a good E. E. ribbed vault. This is supported in the wider half by a row of small pillars down the centre; the space of which was probably divided by wooden partitions into store rooms and cellars. It is now used as a dining-hall. At the N.E. corner a square building projects which forms the bishop's study above, with a modern oriel window.

The fireplace in the entrance vestibule is of the time of Henry VII., Bishop Oliver King; a rich Jacobean staircase gives access to the upper floor, which has always contained the principal apartments. The whole length of the W. front is occupied by the *Gallery*, a fine room 84 ft. long, lighted by the original E. E. windows, of two 3-foiled lights with a quatrefoil over, all contained under a flat 3-foiled escocinson arch supported on shafts with rich capitals. The walls are hung with portraits of the bishops, including Wolsey in his cardinal's robes, the martial Mews, the saintly Ken, the intruding Kidder, crushed to death within these walls by the fall of a chimney in the great storm. To the E. of the gallery are the chief rooms: the *Library*, looking S.; the *Drawing Room*, with a rich but heavy ceiling; and the *Dining Room*, communicating with the bishop's study, which has an access by a modern newel staircase with the garden. The whole of the windows of these rooms are of the same E. E. type as those of the gallery, but somewhat later; those in the N. and S. gables are remarkably fine. They are original, but restored by Mr. Ferrey.

The *Kitchens* and offices occupy the N. wing, overhanging the moat. This wing was enlarged, and oriel windows added, by Bishop Clerk, 1523-1540. The bosses of the windows bear his rebus. The corner tower at the N.E. is also Bishop Clerk's work.

The *Chapel* (52 ft. by 26 ft. within) occupies the site of the S. wing of Joceline's building, which probably included a chapel on the upper floor; and the practised eye will see traces of the earlier prelate's work in the staircase turrets at the angles, and in the wall of the hall adjacent to the chapel. The existing chapel was built by Bishop Bunnell, 1274-1292, and is a beautiful

example of Dec. work. It is of 3 bays, with a 3-light window in each, a rich 6-light window to the E., and a plainer one of 5 lights to the W. of later date. The whole is covered by a very rich groined vault. There are good sedilia and a piscina. The W. door is E. E. There is a low side window in the S. side wall towards the W. end. This chapel, which had been allowed to fall into decay, was restored by Bishops Law and Bagot, and is now appropriately fitted up.

The *Great Hall* (115 ft. by 60 ft.) joins the chapel at the S.W. angle, and is also the work of Bishop Burnell, but somewhat later. It was a structure of unusual size and magnificence, of 5 bays in length, and divided by arcades into a centre and side aisle. The 2-light windows are admirable examples of early Dec. It was dismantled by Sir John Gates, who had purchased the palace for the sake of the materials, 1552, after the execution of the Duke of Somerset, to whom Bishop Barlow had alienated it in 1550, and only the N. and W. walls and the angular turrets, of which that to the N.E. may be ascended for the view, remain. It is some consolation to the antiquary to know that Gates himself was beheaded in 1553 for complicity in Lady Jane Grey's attempt on the throne. The ruin was completed by the Puritan, Dr. Cornelius Burgess, to whom the palace, deanery, and chapter-house, together with other church property in Wells, had been sold for a nominal price by the Parliament. Burgess had been appointed to "preach God's word in the late cathedral ch. of St. Andrew's, Wells." His sermons were not palatable to the citizens, who showed their distaste for them by walking up and down the cloister all sermon time. At the Restoration he had to give up his church spoils, and he died in jail, where he

had been immured by the Corporation. This hall, Nov. 14, 1539, was the scene of the mock trial of Whiting, the last abbot of Glastonbury (see *ante*). At the W. end of the hall were the offices, with the withdrawing room, or solar, above, the windows of which are very elegant and highly finished. From the S.W. corner of this apartment access is afforded to a garderobe closet in the turret at that angle.

The S. side of the palace enclosure forms a lovely garden rich with flowers of bright and varied hues, in pleasing contrast with the grey ruins of the hall, and the ancient walls of the house. The whole scene in summer is one of singular loveliness. The embattled wall affords a terrace walk above the garden, and commands exquisite views of the cathedral, and the hills surrounding the city. The *Well House*, built by Bishop Beckington in the 15th cent. to supply the city with water, still stands in the bishop's gardens; a square buttressed building, with mullioned windows.

A short distance to the S.W. stands the *Bishop's Barn*, a fine and perfect specimen of the early part of the 15th cent., probably built by Bishop Bubwith.

On leaving the palace, we return to the Cathedral Green, and cross it to the N. side to the *Deanery*, with its octagonal turrets, buttresses, and embattled parapet, the work chiefly of Dean Gunthorpe, 1472-98. He was chaplain to Edw. IV., Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and holder of several other high offices, of the profits of which we have a substantial memorial in the present noble building.

"Though a good deal spoilt by sash windows and other alterations, it is still nearly a perfect specimen of a nobleman and gentleman's house of the 15th cent. It has its own gatehouse and wall of enclosure, and

originally had a small court in the centre, now covered in. The principal apartments are on the first floor, on the N. or garden front. This front is very rich and picturesque, and bears the badges of Dean Gunthorpe (a gun) and of Edw. IV. (the rose upon a sun) on the bay windows and oriels. The chief rooms are the hall, with two beautiful bay windows with fan-vaults, the domestic chapel at the upper end of the hall, and the guest chambers over. The hall is a good example of the transition from the mediæval hall to the modern dining-room. At the lower end is a stone arch of wide span, carrying a small chamber curiously squeezed in, probably for the musicians. Under the arch is the lavatory for washing the hands before dinner."—*J. H. P.* Henry VII., when on his march into the W. against Perkin Warbeck, was entertained at the deanery, Sept. 30, 1497, the palace having been for several years unoccupied. An ancient pastoral staff, found some years ago in the precinct of the cathedral, is preserved in one of the rooms. It is a beautiful specimen of mediæval art. The head, of Limoges enamel, represents St. Michael vanquishing the dragon; it is most delicately worked, and studded with small turquoises and other precious stones.

Beyond the deanery to the E. is the *Archdeaconry*, a house of Edw. I.'s time (c. 1280), but much modernised, originally of at least equal importance with the Deanery. The hall, which occupied the whole height of the building, retains a very fine open timber roof of the early part of the 15th cent., probably the work of Bishop Bubwith. There is a curious circular window in the E. gable. Polydore Vergil, the confidant and early tool of Wolsey, is said to have written his history here. In 1550 he obtained royal license to reside abroad, after having held

the archdeaconry more than 40 years; and at that time he alienated the house, which has ever since continued severed from the church. The hall was subsequently used as an assembly room and a place for electioneering gatherings, and in local phraseology was known as "the Salt Box."

The house at the N.E. corner of the cathedral is a small residence of the 15th centy. (c. 1480), tolerably perfect, with the roof and upper part of the hall windows remaining among modern alterations. The porch and room over it are unaltered, and are very picturesque.

To the N.E. of the cathedral, just beyond the Chain-gate, which was intended to afford access for the vicars to the church under cover, stands the very remarkable and picturesque *Vicars' Close*. It is a long narrow court, with a chapel and library over at the N. end, and the entrance gate with the common hall above at the S. extremity, and 21 dwellings ranged along the 2 sides. The 40 vicars choral were incorporated by Bishop Joceline at the beginning of the 13th cent., but they had no houses assigned to them till the episcopate of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury, by whom the more ancient portions of the close were erected, A.D. 1348. The character of the doorways, and the few original windows that remain, show that the existing houses, though much modernised, are substantially his work, as are also the chapel and the *Hall*, with its W. and side windows. The E. end of the hall over the gateway, with its bay windows, was added by Richard Pomeroy (temp. Henry VIII.), for whom an inscription on the mantelpiece asks the prayers of the faithful.

The houses of Bishop Ralph were all on one plan, and consisted of 2 rooms, one over the other, with a staircase and closet at the back. The vicars were of course unmarried, and dined together in the common hall.

The close was in fact a college, in which each member had a separate small house, instead of rooms on a common staircase, on the same arrangement as a Carthusian priory. The houses were extensively repaired and altered by Swan, Sugar, and Talbot, Bishop Beckington's executors, whose arms, with those of the bishop, appear on the very picturesque tall chimney shafts which break the uniformity of the outline of the front. One of these dwellings has been restored to its original state by Mr. J. H. Parker, C.B., to whom we also owe the complete repair and appropriate decoration of one of the houses of the two principals, attached to the S.W. end of the hall, which had for a long time been used as a brewhouse, and had fallen into a state of miserable dilapidation. The whole has been decorated and furnished in the style of the period from designs by Mr. W. Burges, and is well worth inspection. An exquisite oriel projects from the W. gable of this house. The *Dining Hall* contains a reading pulpit, and a curious picture of Bishop Ralph granting the vicars' petition. The *Kitchen* was also added by Pomeroy. The other principal's house is attached to the W. end of the *Chapel*. The spandrels of the chapel windows contain fragments of 13th-cent. sculpture, the work of Bishop Joceline, probably brought from the cathedral during the reconstruction of the E. end. The *Library* over the chapel was probably added by Bishop Beckington's executors.

Most of the *Canons' Houses* have been rebuilt or spoiled by modern alterations. One to the N.E. of the cath. has a good porch and panelled battlement of the 15th centy. Another good 14th-cent. house further to the E., with a fine timber roof, has been recently pulled down.

Some of the houses in the *Liberty* outside the close were in the bp.'s special gift for non-resident canons, and were called "the bishop's ribs."

The *Canons' Barn* is chiefly of modern date, but some very ancient work exists within, which may be either Norman or very early in the E. E. style.

Two of the 3 *gates* of entrance to the Cathedral Green were certainly the work of Bp. Beckington, and bear his punning rebus, a flaming *beacon* and a *tun*. That at the N.W. corner, near the deanery of the 15th centy., known as *Browne's Gate*, or the *Dean's Eye*, is the poorest, but not without interest. On the opposite, or S. side, near the organist's house, is the *Bishop's Eye*, commonly called "Pennylesse Porch," probably from the distribution of the church alms being made there. On the W. side are the arms of Bp. Beckington, below those of Henry VI., with the bp.'s rebus on each side. The *Chain-gate* and *Bridge* at the N.E. corner of the green connecting the cathedral with the vicars' close is a very beautiful building, erected by Bp. Beckington, c. 1460. There is a fourth gateway, the stately of the whole, the work of the same munificent prelate, leading from the market-place to the palace.

The *Market-place* was also designed by Bp. Beckington, c. 1443. The houses on the N. side, opposite the town-hall, are distinctly mediæval, though much modernised. A but-tress may be seen peeping out every here and there among later alterations.

In the centre of the market-place is a modern *Conduit* of nondescript style, supplied by St. Andrew's well.

The ugly *Town-hall*, out of harmony with all its surroundings, was built in 1779, in place of one that stood on pillars in the middle of the square, the work of Bp. Knight (1541-1554) and Dean Woolman. The summer assizes for the county are held here. The Council Chamber contains portraits of James I. and Charles II., attributed to Sir Peter Lely, Bps. Mews, "the fighting

bishop," Creighton, Hooper, and Law, together with some MSS. of historic interest, framed and hung on the walls, including a letter of Charles I. asking for a loan of 500*l.*, an original writ for ship-money, &c.

The *Market-house* to the E. of the town-hall was built in 1836, in which a large Saturday cattle and cheese market is held once a month.

The *Crown Inn*, on the S. side of the market-place, is a curious framed timber-house, with windows supported on brackets. The most curious part overlooks the yard. Wm. Penn once preached from a window of this Inn.

St. Cuthbert's Church is, after the cathedral and its adjuncts, the object of the greatest attraction in Wells. The *Tower*, containing 6 very fine bells, is one of the very finest of the far-famed Somersetshire steeples, of the same type as that at Wrington (to which alone it yields the palm), without horizontal divisions, the belfry stage formed by two enormous and nobly proportioned windows, with equal pinnacled turrets at the angles. It seems to have been originally an E. E. cross ch., c. 1240, with a central tower, which is recorded to have fallen c. 1560. The whole ch. was transformed in Perpendicular times after the erection of the W. tower, when the E. E. pillars were heightened, and the whole character changed. The ch., as it now stands, consists of W. tower, nave, and aisles, with chantry chapels on both sides, transeptal chapels, N. and S. porches, each with a parvis over, a chancel with aisles, and an original sacristy to the N. The S. transeptal chapel, which has a Dec. E. window, was the site of a chantry founded by Thomas Tanner, of Wells, in 1402. Against the E. wall was an altar, now defaced, the reredos representing the *radix Jesse*, erected in 1470. At the Reformation the statues were torn down or built up in the niches, and

the whole hidden under a coat of plaster, but were brought to light again in 1848. The reredos of the N. or St. Mary's Chapel was discovered at the same time; the design was magnificent, the groining of the niches of peculiar richness, and the whole work very delicate and beautiful. The whole had been coloured and gilded. A fresco of our B. Lord in the act of benediction was also discovered. The ch. has been well restored, a carved reredos, with a bas-relief of the Last Supper, by Forsyth, erected at the cost of the local freemasons. A Norman pillar piscina formerly built up in one of the transept walls deserves notice.

St. Thomas' Ch. (Teulon, arch.) was built 1856-7 by Mrs. Jenkyns, the widow of Dean Jenkyns, in memory of her husband. It is a very pleasing building, with a tower and spire and apsidal chancel, in the Dec. style. The stained-glass windows of the chancel were given by the Fellows of Balliol College, of which Dr. Jenkyns had been master.

Not far from St. Cuthbert's Ch. is *Bp. Bubwith's Almshouse*, founded after the bp.'s death, 1424. The original plan was that usual in mediæval times—a large Hall, with cells on each side for the almsmen, open to the timber roof, and a chapel at the E. end, open to the Hall, so that the inmates could join in the daily service in their cells. This suffered from ill-judged alterations in 1850, but the original design may be traced. At the W. end is the old *Guildhall*, also erected by the executors of Bp. Bubwith. A large addition to the almshouses was made by a bequest from Bp. Still, d. 1607; to this date some very quaint cinquecento sedilia on the S. front must be assigned.

[One of the most interesting objects that may be visited from Wells is the cavern known as *Wookey Hole* (2 m. W., at the foot of the Men-

dip range), the legendary haunt of the "Witch of Wookey," where,

"Deep in the dreamy dismall cell,
Which seem'd and was ycleped hell,
This blear-eyed hag did hide;"

whose exploits form the subject of a ballad in Percy's 'Reliques.' A road over *Milton Hill* (with a fine view), or by the foot of the hill, will lead to a pretty dell deeply scooped in the limestone. Along this runs the stream of the *Axe* to turn the wheels of several paper-mills. By a path through a wood we soon reach its source, at the foot of a lofty precipice which closes in the valley with its picturesque curve. Here the river issues from a natural arch, and above it, some 50 ft., appears the entrance to the cavern. "Its entrance," says William of Worcester, "is narrow, and the ymage of a man stands beside it, called the Porter, of whom leave to enter the hall of Woky is to be obtained." The passage leads at once by a sharp ascent and as abrupt a descent, called *Hell's Ladder*, to the sanctum of the witch, her *kitchen*, where the walls expand so considerably, a sphinx-like-shaped mass of stalactite is popularly known as the "*witch of Wookey*."

In the same chamber are the *dog*, the *witch brewing*, the *pillar of salt*, and the *boiling furnace*, whimsical masses formed by the dropping of the water charged with carbonate of lime. From the kitchen the guide will conduct you to the *parlour*, and point out the *witch's hand-basin*, the *organ*, and the *flitch of bacon*; and from the parlour to the *drawing-room*, where the river prevents any farther progress. The rock in which this extensive cavity is formed is the magnesian limestone, which is found in several places on the flanks of the Mendips. Large discoveries of animal remains have been made at Wookey, including an enormous quantity of bones of hyæ-

na, 3 species of bear, 2 lions, 1 wolf, and of the creatures on whom they fed. As much as 2 cwt. of rhinoceros-teeth was sold as old bones. There have been also found traces of human occupation; flint implements, splinters, and a bone arrow-head. According to Leland and Camden, in the reign of Henry VIII., a pig of lead bearing an inscription recording the British triumphs of Claudius was turned up by the plough near Wookey Hole. *Wookey*, more properly *Okey*, is said to be derived from the British word *ogo* (Cornish *fogo*), a cavern. A plan was once proposed to drive an adit for the drainage of the mines from Wookey Hole to East Harptree, a distance of 6 m. (Rte. 27), passing entirely through the chain of the Mendips. In the belief of the country people a passage already exists to the Cheddar cliffs.

The *Ebber Rocks* are on the hill above Wookey Hole. You will pursue the Cheddar road, and turn in at the first gate on the rt., where a path leads up a wooded bottom to a ravine with rocky sides and slopes covered with débris. The cliffs rise picturesquely above it.

Wookey Ch. is Perp., with a good tower with a corner turret and spirelet, and a good altar-tomb to Thomas Clarke and his wife Anthony, 1555; by whom the chapel containing it was built and fitted up for worship, temp. Philip and Mary. A squint at the S.E. corner of the N. aisle, with a piscina on its sill, should be noticed. Alexander Barclay, author of 'The Ship of Fools,' was incumbent of Wookey. The sculptured base of a cross remains in the churchyard.

The *Court*, now a farmhouse, was formerly a manorial residence of the Bps. of Bath and Wells, from which many of Beckington's letters are dated. It still contains an E. E. doorway, and some Perp. remains. *Mellifont Abbey*, built on the site of

the old rectory by Col. Piers, c. 1730, is a modern antique, preserving some ancient architectural fragments. On the other side of the Axe, which divides the parishes of Wells and Wookey, and was the frontier of Wessex A.D. 577, is *Somerleaze* (E. A. Freeman, Esq., the historian of the Norman Conquest); behind which is the hill of *Ben Knoll*, where there are traces of a small fortified settlement with hut-circles, from which charcoal has been dug. The view from the summit is extensive. The Cheddar cliffs are 8 m. W. of Wells (Rte. 22).]

Proceeding on our route from Glastonbury to Highbridge, the line is nearly level, laid mainly on great peat bogs, now covered with rich pasture, and abounding in treasures for the botanist. The traveller will remark the hollow humming of the train as it rolls over the deep beds of elastic peat, and will notice the piles of rich brown blocks, cut and stacked for fuel.

The first stat. after leaving Glastonbury is

51 m. *Ashcott* Stat. The village is 2 m. S.W., on the lower slopes of Polden Hill. $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the stat. is

Meare, 3 m. N.W. of Glastonbury, formerly islanded in a large lake or *mere*, whence the name, and now surrounded by marshes, where was a residence of the abbot of Glastonbury. The house, now used as a farmhouse, was built by Adam of Sodbury in the middle of the 14th centy. The ancient hall and kitchen are well preserved. "Two sides of a quadrangle remain. The eastern wing has been destroyed. The western, containing the hall, is nearly perfect. The hall, 60 ft. by 22 ft., is on the first floor, with rooms below.

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*, 1882.]

It has good Dec. windows, and a fireplace, a good example of its period. There is a good entrance porch of 2 stories, with the figure of an abbot on the point of the gable. The kitchen, in which there is a good plain fireplace, is entered directly from the porch."—*J. H. Parker*. To this place the abbots came by water; and a field, called *Pool-reed*, marks the spot where their boats were moored. But 50 years since, the village could be approached only by a horse-path. 200 yds. E. of the manor-house is a most interesting architectural curiosity—a *cottage* of the time of Edw. III., traditionally known as the *Fish-house*, and probably the residence of the abbey fisherman. It has a roof of open timber-work, and is kept in repair by its proprietor, Sir Charles Taylor. The abbey fishponds (N. of Meare and adjoining the Brue) once covered over 500 acres of water. The *Ch.* is a fine structure. The chancel is of the time of Edw. III., with window tracery of very unusual design. The tower is of the same date. The nave was rebuilt by Abbot Selwood, in the 16th centy., in rather poor Perp., but has remarkably good ironwork. The stone pulpit, also, is richly sculptured, and to the wall by the side of it is still affixed the iron stand for the hour-glass. The pleasing village cross of the 15th century, removed from its original site, stands near the schools. Meare was the living of the *Rev. W. Phelps*, author of a 'History of Somersetshire,' which he left unfinished at his death.

52 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Shapwick* Stat., 2 m. N. of the village, where was a grange and court-house of Glastonbury. The *Ch.*, restored in 1861 by Sir. G. G. Scott, retains its central tower, an uncommon thing in Somerset. It was rebuilt on its present site by the Abbey of Glastonbury shortly after its impropriation, between 1261 and 1274, in the abbacy of

John of Taunton. Judge Rolle, deposed from his office by Cromwall, built a mansion here in 1630 with a fine gabled front, *Shapwick House* (G. Warry, Esq.).

[1 m. N. in the marsh is *Honeygore*, where an ancient road formed of trunks of trees laid side by side 6 ft. below the surface has been discovered. It appears to lead from Meare to Burtle, 2 m. across the turf, and is called the *Abbot's Road*, but it is probably of a much earlier date than this name would indicate.

4 m. N. is *Wedmore*, which was the site of Alfred's royal palace, where, after the battle of Ethandun, the famous "peace of Wedmore" was settled, and the christening festival of Guthrum kept after his baptism at Aller. The site of Alfred's Palace is placed by tradition in the hamlet of *Mudgeley*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Wedmore church, in a field on the S. slope of the hill. Recent excavations have brought to light massive walls, including those of a long building, 95 ft. by 39 ft., presumably the hall, which have been identified with the royal residence. It has a large and striking *Church* (restored by Ferrey, 1881), singular in its appearance, especially in the S. view, from its irregularity. The tall and somewhat bare tower rises from a confused mass of buildings. A curious group of additional buildings is attached to the S. aisle, and some singular chapels and sacristies group round the chancel. It was originally a cruciform structure of the 13th centy., which received large additions and alterations in the 15th. It has a central tower, aisles to both chancel and nave, a large S. porch, with parvise over, and chapel between it and the S. transept. The larger portion of the ch. is Perp., and almost wholly so externally; the S. side is, as usual, more ornate than the N. The arches under the tower

are late Trans., as also the S. doorway; the tower arches are very plain, but there is fine stone groining of late character in the tower. The arcades of the nave have rather depressed arches, and there is no clerestory. The N. transept and the N. chapel of the chancel have good panelled ceilings. The window at the E. of the S. aisle is early Dec.; under its sill is a vestry like those at Ilminster, Crewkerne, &c. The ascent to the altar is by unusually steep steps; on the S. is a sedile and piscina, and there is a squint from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the chancel. There is a magnificent Jacobean pulpit and reading-desk. It contains mural brasses to Captain Thomas Hodges, slain at the siege of Antwerp, 1583, with a curious epitaph deserving perusal, and Capt. George Hodges, c. 1630 (very curious as showing the military costume of the time), and several curious memorials to the Boulting and other families.

There are two ancient crosses—one plain and modernised in the churchyard, removed to its present site about fifty years since; the other, in the village, of late 14th-centy. work, and one of the most perfect examples existing. Its canopied head contains sculptures of the Holy Rood, the Virgin and Child, an ecclesiastic and a knight. On this cross Judge Jeffreys' in the Bloody Assize, is said to have hung a doctor, who had dressed the wounds of one of Monmouth's army. The house in front of which it now stands is that in which Jeffreys is said to have lodged.

3 m. W. of Wedmore, 4 m. from Highbridge Stat., is *Mark*, where the *Ch.* has a very fine oak roof.]

55 m. *Edington* Stat., $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the village, which lies on the N. slope of the Poldens. Edington

Moor is much frequented by botanists for its marsh flora. Edington is considered by Bishop Clifford to be the Æthandune of Asser, the scene of Alfred's victory over the Danes, usually placed at Edington in Wiltshire (Rte. 4). In this vicinity, where the rly. reaches the alluvium, heaps of Romano-British pottery have been found, proving the existence of manufactories of coarse ware during the Roman occupation.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. W. is the little village of *Chilton*. Above it, on the crest of Polden Hill, stands Chilton Priory, a modern erection built for a museum by the late Mr. Stradling; but its contents have been dispersed by auction, the most interesting having passed to the Taunton Museum. The little building is, however, still used for its original purpose. The views rt. and l. are exceedingly beautiful. The steep sides of the ridge slant directly from the road, exposing on the rt. the flats of Sedgemoor and the heights of the Quantock and Blackdown hills; on the l. the entire range of the Mendips, Brent Knoll, and the sea. At

$58\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Bason Bridge* Stat., and at $60\frac{1}{4}$ m. the line reaches

Highbridge Stat. on the Bristol and Exeter Rly. (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 21.

BATH TO WELLINGTON, BY BRISTOL
[CLIFTON, KINGSWESTON
LEIGH COURT, PORTISHEAD], YAT-
TON, CLEVEDON [BROCKLEY
COMBE], BANWELL [WESTON-
SUPER-MARE], HIGHBRIDGE [BURN-
HAM], BRIDGWATER [SEDGEMOOR,
ISLE OF ATHELNEY], DURSTON,
AND TAUNTON [QUANTOCK HILLS].

(*Great Western Railway.*)

(*Bristol and Exeter Railway.*)

The Great Western enters Somersetshire $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the Box Tunnel (Rte. 1) through a deep valley, in which the clays of the inferior oolite and lias are in places exposed. On emerging from the tunnel, the great oolite hills rise steeply to about 700 ft., and on the l., between *Monkton Farleigh Down* and *Hampton Down*, the Avon flows from the beautiful *Vale of Claverton*. The river is crossed by the railway. As the train leaves the cutting, a glimpse is obtained of

1. *Bathford*, and its church, and immediately afterwards of the ivied tower of

1. *Bathampton* Church, close to the line. This building is chiefly of Perp. date, with a little E.E. work left in the chancel, and has a fine W. door. It has also, within the porch, effigies of a knight and his lady, temp. Edw. III., and in a niche on the exterior wall of the E. side another effigy, supposed by M. Planché to represent a bishop of the 11th centy., and by others a female. These effigies were removed from the interior of the ch. when it was restored by Ralph Allen of Prior

Park, whose occasional residence was the *Manor House* (Major R. S. Allen). In the churchyard is the tomb of the Vicomte du Barré, killed by Count Rice in a duel on Claverton Down, 1778. The Rectory and other houses show traces of antiquity. There is also an ancient tithe barn much altered.

Rt. *Batheaston* and its Perp. ch.

The line enters Bath by a cutting through the *Sydney Gardens*, and, sweeping round in a curve on a viaduct 40 ft. above the level of the river, commands on the rt. an excellent view of the abbey church and city, and on the l. of the suburb of *Widcombe* and the height of *Beechen Cliff*.

BATH.—[*Hotels* : York House; Grand Pump Room Hotel (a large and splendid establishment, especially adapted for invalids, with mineral-water baths in the hotel accessible by a lift) ; Castle ; White Lion ; Christopher ; Royal (adjacent to the G. W. Rly. Stat.).]

[*Railways.*—Bath is a chief station on the Great Western Rly., by which it communicates in one direction with London and the East, and in the other with Bristol and the West of England. The station of the Midland Rly. by which it communicates with Gloucester, Worcester, Birmingham and the north is on the opposite side of the river about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. This is also the station for the Somerset and Dorset line by Shepton Mallet, and Evercreech, to Blandford, Poole and Bournemouth. By the Wilts and Somerset line it has communication by Bradford, Trowbridge, and Westbury, with Salisbury, and Southampton, as well as with Yeovil, Dorchester, and Weymouth. (Hackney carriages are entitled to 1s. a mile for two persons, and 6d. for each additional person, and for each additional $\frac{1}{2}$ m. a portion thereof ; or by time 2s.

an hour and 6d. additional for each $\frac{1}{4}$ hour.)

Bath (Pop. in 1881, of city and borough parishes, 52,557; of electoral area, 53,761 ; “The queen of all the spas in the world. There are certainly very few that can compare with it for beauty of situation and none for magnificence of buildings” —*Waagen*) is situated in the bottom and on the steep sides of the valley of the Avon, which, sweeping round the ancient town, traverses the heart of the city in a winding course from E. to W. The abbey and the busiest streets lie below; and above, on the northern slope, rise terraces and crescents, tier upon tier, to a height of nearly 800 ft., the Royal Crescent about half-way up the hill, then Lansdown Crescent, and numerous villas and mansions towering above them. The whole city is built of the white oolite called *Bath Stone*, the excellence of which enhances the impression of grandeur and solidity, and in a style of architecture worthy of the material. Some of the streets and groups of houses are indeed models of excellence, and their effect is enhanced by the beauty of the site, and the absence of the smoke and dirt attendant upon trade and manufacture. Walter Savage Landor, who made Bath his home for many years, and who was familiar with the finest cities of Italy, gave the palm to Bath for beauty and purity of architecture over all of them. Bath bears the stamp of opulence in its aspect ; and although its “season” no longer commands the *élite* of fashion, it enjoys its share of gaiety, and as a residence is a favourite retirement from more busy scenes. It combines many of the advantages of the metropolis with those of a watering-place; and education, amusement, and society may be obtained here at a moderate expense.

Bath has two genuine myths, an

older and a younger. The latter, that of Bladud and the swine, is the most commonly known; but the earlier tale, related by Geoffrey of Monmouth, deserves the precedence. According to this, Bladud, the son of the British king Lud Hudibras, was skilled in the black art, and created "the Bath" by his magic art, placing a cunning stone in the spring that made the water hot and healed the sick people. Unfortunately he attempted to fly with wings of his own devising, and though he managed his aerial voyage from Bath to London with success, when above that city, the strings snapped, and he fell on the roof of the temple of Apollo, and was dashed to pieces. He reigned 20 years, and was succeeded by his son, our old friend, "King Lear."

According to the later and more popular legend, Bladud was a leper, and for that reason had been expelled his father's palace, wandered disconsolately to Keynsham, and was there reduced to the ignoble condition of a swineherd. His pigs, runs the story, were infected by him with the same disease, but, wandering in this valley, they rolled in the warm mud where the mineral waters stagnated, and were healed. Bladud, perceiving this cure, tried the same remedy with equal success, and when, after completing his education at the university of Athens, he became king, he built a city on the spot. So, according to tradition, Bath was founded, B.C. 863, and the statue of King Bladud, erected in the Pump Room about the year 1700, bore an inscription to that effect. The Romans, however, were more probably the first to discover the virtues of these waters, and to use them for medicinal purposes, about A.D. 44.

Bath may be certainly identified with the *Ἰδρυα θερμὰ* of Ptolemy, placed by him among the Belgæ, but more accurately lying just outside the Belgic border. By the Romans it was denominated *Aquæ Solis*

(or *Sulis*), and was one of the most important of their stations, where they built a temple to the goddess Minerva, here identified with the local deity *Sul* (who, it is conjectured, gives its name to the adjacent hill of *Solsbury*, and was worshipped under the appellation of *Sul-Minerva*), and where there existed a College of Armourers for the manufacture of weapons for the legions. The walls which surrounded this station, which were closely followed by the mediæval *enceinte*, were nearly on a line with the streets called the *Lower Borough-walls*, *Westgate Buildings*, *Sawclose*, and *Upper Borough Walls*, and their foundations have been frequently laid open. They enclosed a pentagonal area. The principal buildings stood round the abbey churchyard. The temple, which had a portico of Corinthian columns, of which and of the pediment considerable fragments are to be seen at the Royal Institution, stood near the site of the Pump Room. The fragments were disinterred in 1790. A platform on which another temple stood was discovered in excavations at the White Hart in 1867. The Roman Baths were discovered in 1755, when the D. of Kingston pulled down the Priory, to form the Kingston Baths. The foundation lay 20 ft. below the surface. The baths were of a magnificent description, decorated with columns and tessellated floors, and furnished with sudatories and other appliances. When discovered, in 1755, the flues were found charged with soot, and the bricks marked with fire. The large central bath was 90 ft. by 60 ft., flanked by oblong rooms, with semicircular recesses, 65 ft. by 34 ft. The walls, when disinterred, were 6 or 7 ft. high, lined with red cement. In 1881, excavations set on foot by Major Davis, F.S.A., beneath the King's Bath, resulted in the discovery of a Roman Bath of immense size at a considerable depth below the present

surface of the ground. One of the most remarkable portions was an octagonal well or tank 50 ft. by 40 ft. lined with lead. The bath proper contained a hall 120 ft. long by 69 ft. wide, covered by an arched roof, fragments of which were found, with pilasters and columns *in situ*.

Among other Roman remains discovered here have been a colossal female head with the hair elaborately dressed; altars to Sul-Minerva, and a monument to her priest, inscriptions, carved fragments, together with millstones, flue-tiles, Samian ware, and a beautiful bronze head, identified by Warner with Apollo, by others with Minerva, dug up in Stall-street in 1727.

In the stormy period which followed the departure of this people, c. 410, the beautiful buildings and monuments which they had raised around the "Waters of the Sun" were destroyed, and an era of rude barbarism followed. This is the period that gave to the world the famous story of Arthur and the Round Table. The seat of Arthur's famous victory over the Saxons at *Mons Badonicus* (A.D. 520) has been identified with Bath, but according to Dr. Guest, erroneously, the place of the battle being far more probably Badbury in Dorsetshire. The British dominion in these parts was broken up in 577 by the Saxon chiefs Cuthwine and Ceawlin, who conquered the Britons at Deorham (now Dyrham, 7 m. N. E. of Bath, the seat of the Blathwayt family), and took Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, or, as it was then called, Ake-mannesceaster. This name has been absurdly derived from *aches* and pains, for which people went for cure to Bath; but it is really a British compound, embodying the Roman element *Aquæ*, and the syllable *man*, the British word for *place*; and signifies the fortified camp at the *place* known by the name of *Aquæ*.

The great Roman road from London which passed through Oxfordshire, and by Marlborough to Bath, was also known as the *Akeman Street*. Two other Roman roads converged at Bath: the *Via Julia*, from S. Wales by the Aust Passage to Cunetio; and the Foss Way, from Lincoln by Ilchester to Axminster.

After its capture by the Saxons, Bath became a chief city of the district of Hwiccia, and gradually losing its original appellation, became known as *Bathan-ceaster*, the city of the Bath; or *æt Bathum*, or more fully *æt hatum Bathum*, the city at the bath, or hot baths.

In 676 a monastery for nuns was founded at Bath by Osric, King of Hwiccia, the patronage of which was acquired in 781 by Offa, King of Mercia, by which time the sex of the inhabitants had been changed, and it continued to the Dissolution a monastery for monks only. This foundation was dedicated to St. Peter.

The Saxon period may be considered the making of Bath as a city. From Offa's time it was a royal demesne, and in later times was held by the Confessor's wife Edith. A mint was established here, and coins were struck by most of the Anglo-Saxon and Danish monarchs after Athelstan. At Pentecost 973, a royal pageant of unprecedented magnificence took place in Bath on the occasion of the coronation of Edgar in the 16th year of his reign, by the Abps. Dunstan and Oswald, at which, according to the Anglo-Saxon rhyme—"There was a heap of priests, of monks a mighty throng of wise men assembled." Leland tells us that in grateful memory of Edgar's munificence on this occasion, "They pray in all the ceremonies for his soule, and a king is elected every yere in the joyful remembrance of King Edgar and the privileges given to the toun by him. This king is fested and his adherents by the richest man

of the *towne*." When Sweyn, Canute's father, overran England in 1015, he made Bath his head-quarters, where he received the submission of the western Thanes.

The subsequent history of Bath is uneventful. Edith, Edward the Confessor's queen, held it at the Conquest, and in Domesday it appears as a royal manor. In the reign of William Rufus, 1087, it was burnt by Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances and Rob. de Mowbray, in the attempt to place Duke Robert on the throne, but was restored by John de Villula, Bp. of Wells, who in 1090 bought the city of the king, and transferred to it his episcopal seat, becoming the first Bp. of Bath and Wells. Henry I. visited Bath in 1107. The prosperity which the transfer of the see caused to the city received a rude shock in the disturbed reign of Stephen, when the kingdom was torn asunder by the struggle for the crown. During this contest Bath was at one time held by the party of Matilda, at another by that of Stephen. Geoffrey de Talebot, one of the chiefs of Matilda's party, was found disguised in Bath, and was thrown into prison. In retaliation, a party of Matilda's adherents left Bristol, and, reaching Bath at midnight, seized Bp. Robert, and carried him off, and immured him in the castle until an exchange was effected.

The lordship of the city was parted with by Bp. Savaric (d. 1205) to Richard Cœur-de-Lion, in return for the rich Abbey of Glastonbury. The city was bestowed by Edw. I. as dower on his Queen Eleanor, a grant which was rescinded in 1274 in favour of Bp. Burnell. In 1297, we have the first record of Members of Parliament at Bath. In 1341, the borough obtained from Edw. III. a confirmation of former charters, with new liberties. At the same time a bridge was thrown over the Avon to Lyncombe, which was a great accommodation to the traders of Bath, who

had been previously accustomed to wade over with their goods to the annual fair at Lyncombe, granted to the monks of St. Peter's in 1304.

In the Great Rebellion, Bath was of little consequence to either party, for being surrounded by hills it was untenable against artillery ; but on the adjoining height one of the great battles of the time was fought—that of Lansdown, July 13, 1643, in which the gallant Sir Bevil Grenville ended his career. July 29, 1645, it was selected by Sir W. Waller as his headquarters. The inhabitants closed their gates against Monmouth, June 26, 1685, obliging him to commence that retrograde movement which terminated fatally at Sedgemoor. Some of the inhabitants, however, fought under Monmouth's standard, and six condemned by Jeffreys, were executed at Bath with all the savage accessories of the sentence fully carried out.

Bath has had its full share of royal patronage. In 1574 Queen Elizabeth, on her western progress, visited Bath with much state, probably occupying the royal apartments at the Westgate, rebuilt 1572. She spent Sunday, Aug. 22, here, the "*Queresteres*" being brought over from Wells at the cost of 10s. for the occasion. The supposed visit of the Queen in 1591 is an historical fiction. Anne of Denmark, James the First's Queen, visited Bath in 1616 for the benefit of the waters, as did Henrietta Maria in 1644, and Catharine of Braganza 1663, and Mary of Modena the second Queen of James II., in 1687. It was visited by Charles II., with James, Duke of York, his Duchess, and Prince Rupert, in the autumn of 1663. Queen Anne, when Princess, visited Bath, 1692. She was out of favour at court, and her royal sister vented her petty spite by forbidding the mayor and corporation to accompany her to church, as was the custom. At their request she, together with her Consort, Prince

George of Denmark, repeated her visit 10 years later as Queen; when she was received by 200 damsels dressed as Amazons, and 100 young men uniformly clad and armed. Some years later, 1728, the Princess Amelia, daughter of George II., was welcomed with much pomp and pageantry, and escorted by 100 young men fancifully dressed. In 1734, the Prince of Orange, who the same year married Anne, the elder sister of the Princess Amelia, remained some time here, residing at the West Gate, leaving a memorial of his visit in the name of "Orange Grove" and its obelisk. Frederick Prince of Wales and his Princess were here in 1731; in whose honour the obelisk in the centre of Queen's Square was erected. In 1795 the Duke and Duchess of York visited Bath, and the next year H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. In 1817 Queen Charlotte, accompanied by the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV., honoured Bath with her presence, and resided in Sydney Place, Nos. 93 and 103 being engaged for the Royal party, and here she received the intelligence of the death of the Princess Charlotte. In 1830, Oct. 21, the Duchess of Kent with the Princess Victoria arrived here, and gave its present designation to the Royal Victoria Park.

Bath was at one time the seat of flourishing trade and manufactures. In former times, indeed as early as the reign of Richard Cœur-de-Lion, it appears that there was an active trade with Bristol in wine, salt, wool, silks, cloth, and wax. The woollen trade flourished here principally in the 14th and 15th cents., and even from the reign of Henry VIII. to the 17th centy. its looms, of which as many as 150 are said to have plied in Walcot, were noted for this product of industry.*

* "Bath Beaver," a kind of woollen cloth, was famous as early as 15th centy.; but before that, we learn from Chaucer's 'Wife of

About the time of Charles II. it began to decline, and except at the suburb of Twerton the trade has disappeared. Its clothmaking celebrity may be traced to the patronage of the prior and monks of the day. A shuttle was added to the arms of the monastery in the 14th centy., and was to be seen on the front of the abbey house in the last centy.

The architectural attractions of Bath, which are now so conspicuous, are entirely of modern growth. It was hemmed in with its ancient walls and kept strictly to the old Roman limits till the early part of the last century. The description given by Leland in the middle of the 16th centy. is very graphic.

"Bath," he writes, "is sette booth yn a fruteful and pleasant botom, the which is invironid on every side with great hills, out of the which cum many springes of pure water that be conveyid by dyverse ways to serve the cyte. There be 4 gates yn the town by the names of Est, &c. The waulle within the toun is of no great heighth to the eyes, but without it is a *fundamentis* of a reasonable heighth: and it standith almoste alle, lakking but a peace about 'Gascoyns tower.' This took its name from one Gascoyne, who 'in hominum memoria' built a peace of walle as amends for a fault committed in the city."

Chapman, in the 17th centy., says, "The streets are of the narrowest size, especially that nearest the centre, called Cheap St. It is walled round with time-defying stone. The city stands on a *batch*, as we call it, in a bottom from 15 to 20 ft. higher than surface without. The whole is one entire rampart, a coffin filled with earth."

The old city was intersected by

Bath, the city was well known for its trade in cloth—

"Of clothmaking she hadde such an haunt,
She passed hem of Ypris and of Gaunt."

High St. leading from the Northgate to the abbey, where *Cheap St.* started at right angles to it, and continued under the name of *Westgate St.* to the West Gate. Some distance up this street *Stall St.* went off at right angles to the South Gate. The course of the N. and S. walls may be traced by the streets bearing the name of the *Borough Walls*. In the "Upper Borough Walls," opposite the Bluecoat School, a fragment of the rampart still exists, capped by a modern battlement, erected to mark the spot by the late J. H. Markland, F.R.S. Another fragment incorporating the pointed arch of the *East Gate* (a mere postern towards the river) is to be seen in Boatstall Lane, at the back of the market, and is worth attention.

Pepys visited the city in 1668, and leaves us the following account of it in his Diary:—"Having dined very well, 10s., we came before night to the Bath; when I presently stepped out with my landlord, and saw the Baths with people in them. They are not so large as I expected, but yet pleasant; and the town most of stone, and clean, though the streets generally narrow. I home, and being weary, went to bed without supper; the rest supping." Pepys, however, only saw the fair outside of things. Wood, the famous architect, takes us behind the scenes, and shows us domestic Bath up to the beginning of the 18th centy. "The boards of the dining-rooms," he tells us, "and most other floors, in the houses of Bath, were made of a brown colour with *soot and small beer*, to hide the dirt as well as their own imperfections; and if the walls of any of the rooms were covered with wainscot, it was such as was mean, and never painted. The chimney-pieces, hearths, and slabs, were all of freestone; and these were daily cleaned with a particular kind of whitewash, which, by paying tribute to everything that touched it, soon rendered the brown floors like the starry firmament. . . .

With Kidderminster stuff, or at best with chene, the woollen furniture of the principal rooms was made; and such as were of linen consisted only of corded dimity or coarse fustian; the matrons of the city, their daughters, and their maids, flowering the latter with worsted during the intervals between the seasons, to give the beds a gaudy look. Add to this, also, the houses of the richest inhabitants of the city were, for the most part, of the meanest architecture, and only two of them could show the modern comforts of sash-windows." The city seems to have stood still at this point for a century at least; for between the years 1592 and 1692, it had only increased by seventeen houses!

The "Beggars of Bath" were proverbial, "for whither," says Fuller, "should fowl flock in a hard frost but to the barn-door? here all the two seasons being the general confluence of the gentry."

From this abject condition Bath was raised to the highest pitch of architectural magnificence and popularity as a fashionable resort by the influence of two men, Wood the architect, under the auspices of Ralph Allen his munificent patron, and Nash the Master of the Ceremonies.

The elder Wood, a man of true architectural genius, began his building speculations in 1728, when Queen Square was erected in what had been a common field. In 1740 the N. and S. parades rose out of a flat marsh. Gay St. and the Circus, which was not completed till after his decease, followed in 1754. The Royal Crescent, the most splendid and symmetrical example of classical architecture in Bath, was designed by the younger Wood in 1769, together with Camden Place (now Crescent) and Pulteney Street. From this time nearly to the reign of Geo. III. it was deemed the source of health, and was the focus of fashion. To

“the Bath” Fielding and Smollett bring their heroes. Lord Chesterfield was often here, and the great Earl of Chatham, who as William Pitt represented the city in Parliament, resided in the circus. Anstey (1760), in his well-known ‘New Bath Guide,’ ridiculed the follies of the place, and Beau Nash regulated its fashions.

“To Nash, Bath must mainly attribute the rapidity with which it sprang from an insignificant place into the focus of fashionable life, and the most ‘pleasurable’ city in the kingdom.

“When he arrived at Bath in 1703, it was almost entirely devoid of elegant or attractive amusements. The only promenade was a grove of sycamores, and the only ball-room was the bowling-green, with a haut-boy and fiddle for band. Mob-law prevailed, and no respectable female could pass along the streets unprotected after dark. The Pump-house was without a director; and entirely devoid of attractiveness.” The baths which, according to Dr. Jordan, 1631, had been bear gardens where both sexes bathed promiscuously, while the passers by pelted them with dead dogs, cats and frogs, were still “unseemly ponds exposed to wind and rain, as well as to the public gaze.” Nash asked for a band of music. His request was granted, and the Pump Room speedily attracted a large and fashionable company, and Nash was speedily voted Master of the Ceremonies—or King of Bath. The company, which had hitherto been obliged to assemble in a booth to drink tea and chocolate, or to game, were, under his direction, accommodated with a handsome assembly room.

Nash reached the zenith of his greatness between the years 1730 and 1740. Within that time Bath was honoured by two royal visitors, the Prince of Orange in 1734, and Frederick Prince of Wales in 1738. Nash

turned both to good account. An obelisk in *Orange Grove*—an open space to the E. of the abbey—commemorates the restoration to health of the Dutch Prince, “to the extreme joy of Britain.” A similar erection in Queen Square, with a mediocre inscription which Nash worried Pope into writing, perpetuates the visit of his royal brother-in-law.

The evening of Nash’s life was embittered by poverty and the desertion of his gay and titled friends; the Corporation granted him ten guineas a month, and when he died in 1761, at the age of 87, defrayed the cost of his funeral, which took place publicly in the Abbey. Nash’s house in St. John’s Court, afterwards tenanted by Mrs. Delany, is now the Garrick’s Head public-house.

After Nash’s death, Bath continued to grow and spread into the parish of Bathwick, on the other side of the river, the plans being due to Baldwin, on whom Wood’s mantle had fallen. About 1770 a bridge was thrown over the Avon, at the cost of Sir W. Johnstone Pulteney, Bart., and the meadows were soon covered with streets.

The pen of the novelist has invested Bath with a vivid, though fictitious, interest. The readers of Miss Burney’s ‘*Evelina*’ will remember the scenes laid in the Pump Room and its vicinity, while Miss Austen has peopled the city with interesting remains for the lovers of her exquisite fictions. It was in Pulteney Street that Catherine Morland lodged with her friends, the Allens; General Tilney and his son and daughter occupying apartments in Milsom Street. It was at the Lower Rooms her first introduction to Henry Tilney took place. The pompous Sir Walter Elliot and his daughter had a house in Camden Place—their grand friends, “the Dowager Viscountess Dalrymple and the Honble. Miss Carteret” in

Laura Place; "none of your Queen Square houses for us." On the walk by Belmont from Union Street to Camden Place the eclaireissement between Anne Elliot and Captain Wentworth took place; her humble friend Mrs. Smith lived in "Westgate Buildings," to which "Lady Russell's carriage took her as near as it could."

Among the natives of Bath were the ever memorable *John Hales*, of Eton (b. 1584), author of the 'Golden Remains'; *Palmer*, the inventor of the mail-coach system (b. 1742); *Richard Lovel Edgeworth* (b. 1744); *Abp. Laurence* of Cashel; *Sir H. Cole*, C.B. ("Felix Summerly"), of South Kensington notoriety; *Terry*, the comedian; and *Hone*, the author of the 'Every-day Book.' *William Pryne* (born at Swainswick, 1600), the 2 *Lysons*, and *Sir Sydney Smith*, were educated at the Grammar-school, a foundation of Edw. VI.

Among the residents may be noticed *Joseph Glanvill*, author of 'Sadducismus Triumphatus,' who, like *Carte*, the historian, was incumbent of the Abbey Church; *Quin*, the actor (d. 1766); *Anstey*, author of the 'New Bath Guide'; *Governor Pownall* (d. 1805); *Dr. Haweis*, chaplain to the Countess of Huntingdon, and preacher of the London Missionary Society (d. 1820); *Mrs. Piozzi* (d. 1821); and the Dissenting preacher *Jay* (d. 1853).

Bath is traversed by two great parallel avenues, which, under different names, and not in an uninterrupted straight line, run northwards from the Avon.

First, that which runs from the old bridge over the Avon on the Bristol and Wells Road, through *Southgate Street*, *Stall Street*, *Union Street*, *Old Bond Street*, and *Milsom Street*, the Regent Street of Bath, containing the finest shops. At the termination of this, deviating a little to the right, the parallel continues by *Belmont* to *Belvedere*

and *Camden Crescent*, one of the best pieces of architecture in Bath, and commanding a splendid view, on the right. A second parallel of streets commences on the N. side of the Abbey Church, curving with the bend of the river for a great length, under the names of *High Street*, *Northgate Street*, *Walcot Street*, *Lady Mead*, *London Street*, *Grosvenor Place*, &c. From these two parallels the other streets branch off for the most part right and left, or rather E. and W.

On the opposite side of the Avon the principal street is *Pulteney St.* (1788), communicating W. by *Laura Place* and *Argyle Street* with the *Pulteney Bridge*, and E. by *Sydney Place* with the pleasant promenade known as *Sydney Gardens*.

The Avon is crossed by 4 bridges—*St. Lawrence's* or the *Old Bridge*, built 1304, rebuilt 1754; *Pulteney Bridge*, with a row of houses and shops on either side shutting out all view of the river, 1769; *Bathwick* or *Cleveland Bridge*, 1827; *North Parade Bridge*, 1836. To these we may add the 2 railway bridges, the Midland, and the *Skew Bridge*, crossing the river at a very acute angle, 3 suspension-bridges, and a small wooden bridge near the station for foot-passengers, the scene of a lamentable accident, June 6, 1877.

The chief things to be seen in Bath are the *Abbey*, and the *Pump Room* and *Baths* close to it, both not $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the station. Then hire a fly, or walk up to *Camden Crescent* and *Lansdowne Crescent*, whence you have good views of the city. Descend through the *Royal Crescent*, *Circus*, and *Queen Square*, the 3 finest architectural bits in Bath, and so back to the station. By all means visit the antiquities in the *Institution*, and the geological collection of Mr. C. Moore. The finest view of Bath is from *Beechen Cliff*, the steep eminence overhanging the railway on the S., 400 ft. above the Avon. It

may be reached in 10 minutes from the station, walking up *Holloway* (the Roman Fosse Way), and taking the path to the l. At night the view is curious and beautiful.

The *Abbey Church*, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, stands a short distance to the W. of the station. Founded as a nunnery by Osric, 676, it was destroyed by the Danes, and re-founded as a college of secular canons by Offa, c. 775. Edgar, c. 970, exchanged the seculars for Benedictine regulars, of whom Alphege, the martyred Abp. of Canterbury, was abbot. John de Villula having bought the city of Henry I. for 500 pounds of silver, together with the Abbey, which he rebuilt from the foundations, removed hither the seat of the bishopric of Wells, 1090. After many disputes between the monks of Bath and the canons of Wells concerning the place of the see, which De Villula's successor, Robert, sought to heal by the decision that the bishop should bear the style of "Bath and Wells," and should be elected by an equal number of members of each body, the episcopal residence was restored to Wells by Joceline Trotman, 1206, the bishop thenceforward taking the title of Bishop of Bath and Wells. As in other monastic cathedrals the bp. took the place of the abbot, and the house was governed by a prior till the Dissolution, when it was surrendered to the crown by Prior Holway, 1539. The offer of the fabric of the ch. to the city for 500 marks having been refused, the glass, iron, and lead were sold to certain merchants, and the bare carcass purchased by Humphrey Colles, 1542, who sold it to Mat. Colthurst, whose son Edmund made a present of it to the citizens of Bath, of which, though deprived of all its ornaments, it has since remained the mother church. It is one of the latest specimens of Perp. Gothic in the king-

dom, commenced 1499 by Prior Birde and Bishop Oliver King. The present church occupies no more than the nave of the huge Norman fabric. The fabric was arrested in its progress 1539 by the dissolution of the abbey, and the church was left incomplete, in which state it remained, becoming more and more ragged and dilapidated, till 1572, when some repairs were begun at the E. end by one Mr. Peter Chapman. These repairs were carried on by subscription through Elizabeth's reign, till the choir was sufficiently finished to be consecrated. The aisles and transept were continued by various benefactors, Bishop Montagu completing the nave c. 1609. According to a tradition, the Bp. being overtaken by a sudden shower when walking with Sir J. Harington of Kelston, in the Grove, was artfully conducted by him into the roofless church, under pretence of taking shelter, and was thus excited to complete the unfinished work.

The plan of the church is a simple cross, with a tower at the intersection, which is singular from not being square in the plan, the transepts, as at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, being eleven ft. narrower than the nave and choir. Its length from E. to W. is 207 ft., that of the nave 112 ft., of the transepts 126 ft. It is 72 ft. wide from wall to wall. The vault is 73 ft. from the ground. The nave is 5 bays in length, the choir 3 bays; the tower 162 ft. high. The whole is of the same date and design, exhibiting late and rather coarse Perp. The height of the clerestory and the size of the windows are remarkable features. There are no additional buildings, save a small late vestry added to the E. of the S. transept. The bases of two huge Norm. piers on the outside of the E. end are relics of Bishop de Villula's building; and during the recent restoration several other piers

of the Norman nave have been laid bare. "The whole work of the present *Ch.* shows a singular mixture of plainness and ornament, some of the mouldings and details being extravagantly large, and others uncommonly small. It nevertheless contains some parts of great beauty."

—*Rickman*. The exterior was repaired in 1833, when the flying buttresses were completed, and, most unwarrantably, spirelets added to the eastern and western turrets, as well as to those of the tower, completely altering the outline of the building. The whole has been again restored by Mr. Scott, at great cost, and with strict attention to the original design. Bishop Montagu's lath-and-plaster coved ceiling over the nave has given place to a fan-vault, corresponding to that covering the rest of the church. This restoration was set on foot and zealously promoted by the late wealthy and munificent rector of Bath, the Rev. C. Kemble. The work was begun 1864 and completed 1873, at a cost of about 30,000*l.*

The W. front has a magnificent window of 7 lights, flanked by turrets, on which are carved angels, ascending and descending by ladders, to commemorate a vision of Bishop King in 1499, who was instigated to the work by a revelation of the Holy Trinity with angels on a ladder, and an olive-tree supporting a crown, which he interpreted of his own name, Oliver King. The winged figures are now headless and mutilated. The space above the window is also filled with angels on corbels; the figures are well designed, but much defaced. The battlements of this front are varied and very rich. Over the W. door, erected by Sir H. Montagu, brother of the bishop, 1617, are the arms of Winchester, to which see the bishop had been translated, impaling Montagu; on the sides of it statues of Prior Bird

and Bishop King; over the N. door a figure of King Edgar, and over the S. door one of King Osric, founder of the monastery.

The E. front is very plain and heavy. The great E. window, also of 7 lights, has 3 transoms, and is enclosed within a square head. The turrets are square. The N. and S. transept windows are very fine. The aisle windows are low and inelegant; those of the clerestory well proportioned.

The interior well deserves old Fuller's commendation as being "both spacious and specious," while the number and size of the windows, now mostly filled with stained glass, have justly earned for it the title of "the Lantern of the West." The great squareheaded E. window, and that in the S. Transept, are excellent examples of Messrs. Clayton and Beil's work. Before the restoration of 1864 the choir was shut off from the nave by a close modern screen, and was encumbered with high pews and heavy galleries. The whole is now thrown open from end to end, and refitted in a more appropriate style. The lateness of the building makes itself disagreeably evident in the details of the architecture. The mouldings of the piers and arches are somewhat large and coarse. There is no triforium, the sills of the clerestory windows being brought down to the string above the arches. The fan-tracery roof is peculiarly rich. The easternmost arch on the S. side of the choir is filled with the chapel of Prior Bird, 1515, left unfinished, but completed according to the original rich design by the family of the late Rev. C. Kemble. The prior's rebus, a bird, and the letter W. will be noticed. It is sadly crowded with tasteless monuments, though less conspicuous than they once were. They are, indeed, so numerous that one might suppose truth, as well as wit, had

been expressed by Quin's epigram:—

These walls, so full of monument and bust
Shew how Bath-waters serve to lay the
dust."

Or by this :—

"Messieurs, vous voyez très bien ici,
Que ces eaux ne sont pas d'eaux de vie."

The chief are—between the pillars on the *N. side of the nave*, the altar-tomb of Bishop Montagu, with his effigy, under a Corinthian canopy, d. 1618; those of Beau Nash, a plain marble tablet, with epitaph by Dr. Harington; of the Hon. William Bingham, by *Flaxman*, flanked by figures of 2 angels; of William Clements; of James Quin, d. 1766, with medallion portrait, and inscription by Garrick; those of Herman Katencamp, d. 1807, by the younger *Bacon*, and of Colonel Champion, by *Nollekens*; of Malthus, author of the 'Essay on Population,' d. 1834; and of Sarah Fielding, d. 1768, with inscription by Dr. John Hoadley—"For the honour of the dead, and the emulation of the living."

One of the most interesting is that against the S. wall of the *S. transept*, to Lady Waller, with her husband—who fought at Lansdown and Roundway—mourning over her, and a little child quaintly dressed, seated in a chair at the side.

[Scandalous gossip asserts that James II., passing through the abbey in company with Friar Huddlestone, vented his spleen by hacking off the nose of the warrior. Pepys, however, in his Diary, 1668, some years before James came to the throne, exonerates him from the outrage. He says:—"Looked over the monuments, where, among others, Dr. Venner, and Pelling (rector of Bath), and a lady of Sir W. Waller's, he lying with his face broken."]

In the *N. transept* are the monuments of Fletcher Partis, founder of the college named after him;

of Sir R. H. Bickerton, by *Chantrey*; of Dr. Sibthorp, the botanist, a pleasing work by *Flaxman*; of James Tamesz Grieve, Physician to the Empress Elizabeth of Russia, an interesting sculpture of the wife eagerly attempting to arrest the dart of Death; and, on the N. wall of the N. transept, of Mary Frampton, 1676, with an epitaph by Dryden, which will repay perusal. In the N. aisle of the choir is that of Dr. Postlethwaite, Master of Trinity, 1798; and in the S. aisle those of Hoare, the artist, by *Chantrey*, and Colonel Alexander Champion, d. 1793, by *Nollekens*; in the *chancel*, N. of the altar, of Lady Miller, a pretty specimen of the elder *Bacon's* sculpture. On the S. side is that of Bartholomew Barnes, 1607.

Sir William Draper, whose name survives in connection with the castigation he received from Junius, has a long turgid Latin epitaph in the S. aisle.

The other churches of Bath may be soon dismissed. They are all modern. Two stand on the sites of ancient churches—*St. James* at the S. Gate, rebuilt in a plain, classical style by Palmer, of Bath, 1768, and the tower 150 ft. high, completed in 1848; and *St. Michael*, outside the old N. Gate (the fourth on the same site), with a lofty and elegant spire 182 ft. high, rebuilt in E. E. Gothic in 1836, and remarkably good for the date. *Stall Church*, St. Mary of the Stall (*de Stabula*, "of the Manger") has entirely disappeared. *Walcot Church*, standing at the angle of the Roman Fosse Way, and the vicinal way to Weston, was rebuilt in a heavy classical style in 1780. The elevated position of *St. Stephen's*, at the top of Lansdown Hill, renders its pinnaled tower a very conspicuous object in the views of the city, but it is utterly undeserving of notice. There are several new churches in and about Bath more or less commendable, but not calling for much

special remark. The best is *St. Andrew's*, at the rear of the Royal Crescent, by the late Sir G. G. Scott. *St. Mary's* Bathwick, Vane St., has a chancel by Mr. G. E. Street. *Walcot Church*, contains tablets to the memory of Madame D'Arblay (Fanny Burney, the authoress of 'Evelina') and her husband General D'Arblay, and their son, also to Christopher Anstey, and to Governor Pownall.

The most striking modern ecclesiastical building is the *Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Evangelist* (C. Hansom, arch.) on the S. Parade. It is a rich flamboyant building, with a lofty spire, very conspicuous from the rly.

On leaving the abbey, a few steps bring us to the *Pump Room* and the *Baths*.

The *Pump Room* first demands notice. This is a classical structure rebuilt, with a Corinthian portico, by Palmer, 1796, and bearing on its front a Pindaric motto— APICTON MEN YΔΩP —Water best of elements. The interior is a spacious saloon, 86 ft. in length by 56 ft. in breadth and 34 ft. in height, with coved recesses at each end, and in one a statue, (by Prince Hoare), of *Beau Nash*, so long the arbiter of fashion here. The water tumbles continually into a marble vase, and fills the room with its pleasant murmurs. It comes from a point quite distinct from the baths, so that "ladies may drink it out of the pump" without any fear of the ablutions detailed by Anstey. From 2 to 4 a band plays here during the season. No payment is expected for merely tasting the water. Adjoining the Pump Room are the

King's and Queen's Baths, separated from each other by a screen. The King's or principal bath measures 59 ft. by 40 ft., and is open to the sky, with a covered colonnade on one side. In the centre of the

bath stands a copper statue of Prince Bladud, "eighth king of the Britons from Brute, a great philosopher and mathematician, bred at Athens," set up 1699. The bath is filled daily to a height of 4 ft. 7 in., and contains about 364 tuns of water. Dressing and retiring rooms communicate with it, and the bathers properly attired walk about in the water. A brass rail round the centre marks where the temperature is hottest, and bathers may select for themselves a degree of heat varying from 100° to 112°. The spring issues from its source at 116 Fahr., and yields 2 hogsheads per minute. Different hours of the day are allotted for ladies and gentlemen, but in the great days of Bath they used to meet together in the water (as is still the practice in many watering-places abroad), the ladies coiffées in the extreme of fashion, the gentlemen with powdered hair and bag-wigs.

"'T was a glorious sight to behold the fair
sex
All wading with gentlemen up to their
necks." *Anstey.*

The Queen's bath (so named from Anne, the consort of James I.) is 27 ft. square. It is supplied from the same source as the King's, but, as the water flows into it through a passage, the temperature is rather lower. Connected with the King's bath is a reservoir, containing 32,000 gallons.

Private Baths, in the upper story of the building, in Stall Street, are supplied at suitable temperatures. This establishment is excellently arranged and conducted. Douche baths, by which a stream of hot water is applied to any limb or part of the body, without immersing the whole, are provided: the process is here called dry pumping.

The *Cross Bath*, 23 ft. by 22 ft., so called from a cross which, from ancient times, stood in the midst, and was renewed in honour of a visit

from Mary Beatrice of Modena, the second wife of James II. in 1867, by John Earl Melfort, Sec. of State, is resorted to by the less affluent classes, who pay only 3*d.* for admission. The temperature is 98°.

The *Tepid Swimming Bath*, a neat building, erected in 1829, from a design of Decimus Burton (entrance piazza in Bath Street), measures 65 ft. by 25 ft. The temperature is 88°.

The *Hot Bath*, 60 ft. by 22 ft. (end of Bath Street), built by the younger Wood, is a very elegant structure, remarkable for the great beauty of the sculptured foliage and fruit. It is supplied with the hottest of the Bath waters, the spring gushing from its source at a temp. of 120° Fahr.

The *New Royal Baths*, in connection with the *Grand Pump Room Hotel*, erected 1869 by the Corporation at a cost of about 12,000*l.*, which are not surpassed in cleanliness, comfort, and convenience by any in Europe. There are 7 baths, of large dimensions, lined with Dutch tiles, having steps descending into them. One is provided with an invalid chair and crane to facilitate the immersion of feeble patients. An hydraulic lift connects the baths with every floor of the hotel.

The *Hetling*, or *Hot Bath Pump Room* (now closed), is opposite the Hot Bath, at the corner of Hetling Court.

The *Kingston Baths*, in Church Street, occupy the site of the Roman Baths, and were the property of Earl Manvers, but, with all the other baths, now belong to the borough, and are under the superintendence of the Town Council. They are open from 6 A.M. till 10 P.M. ; on Sundays from 7 to 9.30 A.M. and 1 to 3 P.M. The time usually chosen for bathing is between 2 and 5 P.M.

The Bath waters rise in 4 distinct springs, and are the hottest of any

known in England, having a temperature at one of the sources of 120° Fahr. They act as a stimulant, and are considered efficacious in gout and paralysis, and the numerous diseases depending on a relaxed state of the fibres, but may be injurious where there are inflammatory symptoms. They are supplied to the hospitals, and in particular to the *Bath Mineral Water Hospital*, a noble institution, which was founded in 1737 for their special administration to the poor. A new wing on the site of the old Rectory was opened in 1861, and a Chapel added, the fittings of which deserve special examination from the combination of richness and refined taste they display. A Roman tessellated pavement remains *in situ*.

After the Abbey Ch., Pump Room, and Baths, the visitor will do well to turn his steps to

The *Royal Literary and Scientific Institution* (a little S.E. of the Abbey), on the North Parade. It was built 1824, and occupies the site of the Old Assembly Rooms, destroyed by fire, 1820, of which the Doric portico, erected by Wilkins in 1810, is a remnant. It possesses a reading-room, well-stored library of 5000 volumes, including the collection of books on Natural Science, and the Herbarium of the Rev. Leonard Blomefield, and museum, with a laboratory furnished with all appliances necessary for chemical and philosophical experiments. The *Museum* contains Roman antiquities discovered in and near the city ; votive altars to the goddess Sul ; remains of the pediment, cornice, frieze, and Corinthian pillars of the temples of Sul-Minerva and Luna, sepulchral cippi, &c., all so well ticketed that description is needless. The Great Hall contains a fine Geological Collection, including Saurians and other organic remains deposited by the late C. Moore, F.G.S., with collections to illustrate the geology of the neighbourhood, and of England

and Wales generally, carefully arranged by the late curator, Mr. Lonsdale. There are also a cabinet of coins, a collection of birds, amounting to 1500 specimens, bequeathed to the city by Mrs. Godfrey, the Duncan Local Museum of Natural History, and the Lockey Museum of Ethnology. The Museum is free to the public between 11 and 4, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, when a small charge is made. In the garden, which is situated on the bank of the river, the site of the once famous bowling-green, a band plays occasionally.

The *Athenæum*, in the Orange Grove, adjoining the Abbey, originally a Mechanics' Institution, has an excellent reading-room, and a library of more than 5000 volumes.

The *Old Assembly Rooms*, the scene of Beau Nash's glory, erected in the first half of the last century, were destroyed by fire in 1820. Nash was master of the ceremonies nearly 50 years, from 1710 to 1760. The office of *master of the ceremonies* is now done away with. The existing or *Upper Assembly Rooms*, built by the younger Wood, 1771, at a cost of 20,000*l.*, are noble rooms, handsomely furnished and decorated. The ballroom is 107 ft. by 42 ft., the card-room 70 ft. by 27 ft., the octagon room 48 ft. in diameter, and the tea-room 66 ft. by 41 ft. The octagon contains full-length portraits of Beau Nash and Colonel Wade, the latter by *Gainsborough*, who resided for some time at Bath, in the Circus. Balls are frequently given during the season.

In the *Guildhall*, built 1768-75, by Baldwin, on the site of one by Inigo Jones, are portraits of Frederick P. of Wales and his consort, Geo. III. and Q. Charlotte, Pitt Earl of Chatham, and Earl Camden (who both represented Bath in Parliament), by Prince Hoare, and busts of Beau Nash and Allen. Behind the Guildhall are the *Markets*.

Hetling House, in Hetling Court, [Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

near the Pump Room, is one of the oldest mansions in Bath. Its great room, of which the chimney-piece, bearing the arms of the Clarkes, is a fine specimen of decoration, is now used as an Odd Fellows Hall.

The excellent *Robert Nelson*, author of the 'Fasts and Festivals,' founded the *Bluecoat School* in 1711. It was rebuilt in the Elizabethan style in 1859. A tessellated pavement discovered on the site has been relaid in the lobby.

Bp. Butler, author of the 'Analogy,' died in the family mansion of the Rosewells, 14 *Kingsmead Sq.*

No. 5 Trim Street was the residence of *General Wolfe* and his family. The Rev. *Joseph Hunter*, the archæologist and topographer, author of the History of Hallamshire, &c., was for 25 years minister of the Unitarian Chapel in Trim St., in which previously S. T. Coleridge had been an occasional preacher. At the *Octagon Chapel*, opened 1767, as the place of worship for "the Opulent and Noble," *W. Connor Magee*, now Bishop of Peterborough, officiated, 1850-1860. No. 19 New King Street was the house of the astronomer *Herschel*, who was organist of the Octagon Chapel, 1767.

Thomas Haynes Bayly, the writer of once popular drawing-room songs, lived in Catherine Place. *Gainsborough*, the painter, resided at No. 24 in the Circus; *Mrs. Piozzi* in Gay Street, in a house profusely ornamented with carved wreaths.

Walter Savage Landor, the author of the 'Imaginary Conversations,' resided at 3, Rivers Street.

Partis College, on Newbridge Hill, between Bath and Kelston, is an institution for the reception of 30 reduced gentlewomen (10 of them must be widows or daughters of clergymen of the Church of England), who are each furnished with a separate house of 4 rooms and an allowance. It was founded by Mrs. Partis, in conformity with the intention of her de-

ceased husband, Fletcher Partis, and was completed in 1827. It is a Gothic building, with a chapel in the centre.

The *Wesleyan* or *New Kingswood College*, a Tudor structure, erected 1850, from the designs of Mr. James Wilson, F.S.A., occupies a commanding site on the ascent of Lansdown. It has a tower in the centre 90 ft. in height.

The *Lansdown Royal School for Daughters of Officers in the Army*, lower down on the hill, was completed 1858, by the same architect, and has also a lofty central tower. The architecture is Gothic of the Geometric period, with traceried windows.

The *Victoria Park* is a very beautiful landscape garden and pleasure ground of about 10 acres, immediately below the Royal Crescent, approached through the *Royal Avenue*, which is laid out with plantations, shrubberies, and walks, exhibiting a collection of acclimatised trees and shrubs almost unique in its completeness, all conspicuously labelled. At the entrance of the park is an obelisk, erected 1837, in honour of her present Majesty, in whose presence in 1830 (while Princess) this agreeable public garden, created at the expense of some zealous citizens and inhabitants of Bath, who contributed 5000*l.* to this object, was thrown open. Higher on the hill is a colossal bust of Jupiter by Osborne, a self-taught artist, who died in poverty. It is made of a single block of Bath stone, weighing more than 6 tons, and is 7 ft. high.

The *Sydney Gardens*, at the end of Pulteney Street, were formerly the "Vauxhall" of Bath. They occupy 16 acres, and were laid out in 1795. The Kennet and Avon Canal and Gt. Western Rly. both pass through them. They afford a delightful recreation ground with retired walks shaded by fine trees. A band plays here several times a week in the summer.

In Lansdown Crescent lived *William Beckford*, of Fonthill, the talented but eccentric author of 'Vathek;' and on the summit of Lansdown, which is 813 ft. above the sea-level, and now covered with houses to within a short distance of the top, stands

Beckford's Tower, erected after Mr. Beckford had taken up his residence in Lansdown Crescent in 1822. It is a plain classical tower, crowned with an octagonal lantern, rising to the height of 130 ft., and commands an extensive view. The tower and the rooms connected with it, in Beckford's lifetime, formed a store-house of treasures of art in pictures, gems, statues, &c. After Mr. Beckford's death in 1844, the property was in danger of being turned into public tea-gardens, but was happily rescued from such desecration by his daughter, the Duchess of Hamilton, who purchased and presented the ground to the Rector of Walcot, as a public cemetery for Walcot parish. A handsome modern gateway in the Byzantine style has been erected, and Beckford's tomb, which formerly stood in the cemetery of Widecombe Vale, has been removed here. It is a sarcophagus of red granite, which was prepared for him in his lifetime, with inscriptions selected by himself. On one side—

"Eternal Power!
Grant me, through obvious clouds, one transient gleam
Of thy bright essence in my dying hour!"

On the other—

"Enjoying humbly the most precious gift of
Heaven to man—hope."

[The walks and rides around Bath may be almost infinitely varied, and derive a peculiar charm from the wood and rock in the vales, the height of the hills—each with a distinct and extensive view—the numerous old camps, the curious churches, and the farmhouses of Elizabethan

or an earlier date, which abound in the district.

Walks and Excursions:—(a.) To *Sham Castle*, an artificial ruin built 1760, on Bathwick Hill, by Ralph Allen, to improve the view from his town residence now buried among houses at the end of the N. Parade. It is a fine point of view. You may extend your walk to the summit of *Hampton Down*, on which are remains of the *Wansdyke*, and a large *British camp*. On the E. side of the hill are the *Hampton Rocks*, a landslip of the great oolite.

(b.) To *Prior Park* and *Combe Down*. On leaving Bath, the road passes *Widcombe Old Ch.*, with its ivy-mantled tower, built by Prior Bird (now quite insufficient for the population, for whom the Ch. of St. Mark, under Beechen Cliff, and that of St. Matthew, at the base of Widcombe Hill, have been built), and then commences the ascent of the fertile dell of Widcombe. Here is the *Abbey Cemetery*, a pretty spot, the grounds tastefully planted by the late Mr. Loudon in 1843, commanding one of the finest views of the city. *Prior Park* (so called as having belonged to the Priors of Bath), is situated at the head of the vale, on a brow commanding a beautiful view. The mansion, a handsome Palladian structure, connected by arcades with its wings, is 400 ft. above the river and 100 ft. below the top of Combe Down. It was built 1743 by Wood for *Ralph Allen* (d. 1764) the Allworthy of Fielding's 'Tom Jones,' born at St. Blazey, Cornwall, 1693, his father being a small innkeeper. He became a clerk in the Bath post-office, then post-master and mayor, and lessee of the cross-posts which he had established, the net profits of which amounted to 12,000*l.* a year. He was the friend of Fielding, Pope, and, through the latter, of Bp. Warburton, who married his niece and occupied Prior

Park after Allen's death. Pope, who corresponded with him, used to visit him at Prior Park, where he finished the 'Dunciad,' 1741. Pope disliked Bath, its "rocks, and dirt, and brimstone, and fogs," and declares in his letters that "health itself should not draw him thither, though friendship had once or twice." "I live," he says, "out of the sulphurous pit, at the edge of the pit, at Mr. Allen's, for a month or so." The mansion at Prior Park was occupied from 1829, as a Rom. Cath. College; but in 1836 the central part of it, which was Allen's residence, was gutted by fire. It is now a second time occupied as a Rom. Cath. College. A magnificent Corinthian Ch. has been erected, decorated with Venetian mosaics (Scoles, *Arch.*).

Behind are remains of the *Wansdyke*, which traversed the breezy upland of

Combe Down, 2 m., 550 ft. above the sea. On the S. side of this hill, which commands an extensive prospect, several villas have been lately built, and there is now quite a town with Ch. and Inn. A path across two fields leads to *Mount Pleasant*, where a beautiful landscape opens on the view. You look down upon the meeting of the Claverton, Freshford, and Midford valleys, and upon a hill-side covered with wood. The canal winds below, and in the centre a long viaduct spans the valley. To the rt., by a clump of firs called Monument Field, is a tower, now ruinous, built in memory of Allen by Bp. Warburton (another fine point of view), and the sloping park of *Midford Castle*, a modern triangular building in a commanding position. At Midford is a stat. on the Somerset and Dorset line. In the far distance rises Alfred's Tower at Stourhead.

The now exhausted quarries on Combe Down formerly furnished the well-known *Bath freestone*, a variety of *oolite*, of which not only

the abbey and houses of Bath are built, but many other public and private edifices in distant parts of the kingdom. The down, fields and roads are undermined by caverns and passages.

Crossing the Down, we can drop down on the prettily situated village of *Monkton Combe*, with its viaduct and aqueduct (Rte. 5), and return by rly. from Limply Stoke.

(c.) To *Beckford's Tower*, *Stoke Brow*, and *Kelston Round Hill*, returning by *Weston*.

About $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond Mr. Beckford's Tower, at the end of the unenclosed ground, is the *battlefield of Lansdown*, fought July 5, 1643, between the forces of King Charles, led by the Marquis of Hertford, and those of the Parliament under Sir William Waller, resulting in the complete defeat of the latter. Fuller says "it was disputed rather by parcels and piecemeals, and seemed not so much one entire battle as a heap of skirmishes huddled together." The spot, near the fourth milestone, is marked by a monument to the memory of Sir Bevil Grenville and his Cornish friends, who fell here, erected by his grandson, George Granville, Baron Lansdowne, 1720. There are many traces of earthworks on the hill, and the highroad near the monument passes through a Roman camp. Lansdown Hill is now much enclosed, and the view from it, notwithstanding its elevation, is greatly impeded by the stone walls which hem in the road; but a walk of 2 m. from Beckford's Tower, or of 4 from Bath, will bring you to a spot on Upper Lansdown, called *Prospect Stile*, from which may be seen at the same time both Bath and Bristol, the Avon and Severn, the Welsh mountains and the Mendip hills. It is on *Stoke Brow*, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S.W. of the pretty village of *North Stoke*.

On the road to the monument, and 1 m. beyond Beckford's Tower,

we pass on the rt. *Chapel Farm*, which takes its name from the ancient hospital of St. Lawrence, founded for the reception of pilgrims on their road to Glastonbury. It is now converted into a farmhouse, but some Decorated windows remain.

Below *Kelston Round Hill*, which is 730 ft. above the sea, lies

Kelston Park, 3 m. from Bath, looking down on the Avon winding through its green meadows, the property of Lieut.-Col. Inigo Jones. Near Kelston ch. once stood a house built 1587 by Barozzi, an Italian architect, for *Sir John Harington*, the wit, poet, and favourite of his royal godmother, Q. Eliz. It was pulled down 1760, with the exception of some outbuildings, which still remain. The present house, by Wood, was built by Sir Caesar Hawkins 1760. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1860, preserves the old towers, the N. porch, and two piscinas. A fragment of a very early cross, with interlacing ornaments, which formerly stood in the ch.-yd. is placed inside, on the N. wall of the chancel. A curious representation of the Holy Rood is let into the jamb of the N. door.

In the churchyard of *Weston*, lying in a nook under Lansdown (the birthplace of St. Alphege, who gives his name to a spring of singular purity) an altar-tomb marks the burial-place of the widow of William Falconer, author of 'The Shipwreck.' The tower of the *Ch.* is good. The Bath Archery Society has its place of meeting in *Weston Park*.

(d.) To *Grenville's Monument* on Lansdown, returning by the pretty road from *Chapel Farm* to *Langridge*, and by *Swainswick*.

Langridge (3 m. from Bath) has an ancient manor-house, presenting an example, almost unique in this part of England, of a fortified "peel tower" of the 13th cent. There are additions of the 16th cent. The diminutive *Ch.*, one of the many

said to be the smallest in England, measures only 50 ft. in length by 18 in breadth. The apse is modern. It is most picturesquely situated, and is also remarkable for a Norm. doorway and chancel arch, an early sculpture of the Virgin and Child, and an effigy of a lady—probably of the Walshe family—in the costume of Henry III., and 2 brasses of the same family.

Swainswick (2½ m. from Bath), also has its manor-house, the birthplace of *William Prynne*, b. 1600, educated at the Bath Grammar-school. The *Ch.* has a Norm. S. door; the tower and font are E. E. In the ch. is a fine brass to Edmond Ford, 1439, and there are monuments to Prynne's parents. Above the village rises the British camp of *Solsbury*, 600 ft. above the sea, according to Prof. Earle "the venerable site of a well-inhabited and populous British city," or at least "the *arx* or burgh of the Avon valley and the city of Sul below;" and beyond it *Charmy Down*, where remains of a rude stone monument may be seen in a field behind the farmhouse.

Charlcombe, 2 m. from Bath, has a very diminutive *Ch.*, 51 ft. by 21 ft. with a western bellcot, Norm. S. door and font, and stone pulpit.

(e.) Over Lansdown to the *Wick Rocks* (3 m. from the monument), a romantic wooded valley between limestone cliffs, which rise to a height of 200 ft., and are crowned on the N. side by an ancient camp. The geology and botany, and scenery, suddenly differ here from all the country round. We have an island of mountain limestone, with a precipitous rift characteristic of that rock, and the vegetation peculiar to the soil. A Roman camp of 12 acres with a broad ditch and double rampart covers the N. cliff.

(f.) To *Batheaston* (2 m.) and *St. Catherine* (4½ m.). *Batheaston Ch.*,

a Perp. building, contains a tablet to the Rev. J. T. Conybeare, the Anglo-Saxon scholar, for several years vicar of this parish. Near the village are the Water Works that partly supply the city with water. *Batheaston villa* is memorable as the residence of Sir John and Lady Miller (d. 1781), renowned in the fashionable annals of Bath for an antique vase, within which were deposited every other Thursday the poetical effusions of the sons and daughters of fashion. The verses so deposited were drawn by a lady selected by chance, and read aloud. A committee was appointed to decide on their merits, and adjudge the prizes for the four best productions, whose authors were each presented with a wreath of myrtle by Mrs., afterwards Lady, Miller. This custom was continued for some years, until a wicked beau polluted the chaste vase with a satirical or licentious poem, after which it remained closed. 2 m. distant N.E. (Rte. 1) is *Shockerwick* (Mr. Daubeney). The Box Tunnel is 3 m. N.E. 2½ m. the three counties of Wilts, Gloucester and Somerset meet on *Bannerdown*, by the side of the high road. For upwards of a century the spot has been marked by 3 small stones, but these have been superseded by a cromlech, which was set up in 1858. Left of Batheaston, on the declivity of Holt Down, lies the village of

St. Catherine, 4 m., formerly a manor of the priors of Bath, whose *grange*, built by Prior Cantlow about 1499, is still standing in its terraced garden. Its porch, of the time of Charles I., and its beautiful hall-screen, bearing the arms of Henry VII., are much admired. The *Church*—also partly built by Cantlow—contains a finely-carved pulpit, a Norman font, and, in the chancel, an altar-tomb, with effigies, to Wm. Blanchard and his lady, 1631. The return to Bath may be varied by a

route over Charmy Down and Solsbury.

(g.) To *Claverton*, a very pretty spot, and an agreeable drive of about 3 m. from Bath, passing the *Hampton Rocks*, a landslip of great oolite on the face of Hampton Down (Rte. 5). On the bold projecting point of the Down above, is the British entrenchment of *Caer Badon*, enclosing 30 acres.

(h.) To the *Farleigh Beeches*, *Monkton Farleigh*, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., and *S. Wrazall Manor-house*, 6 m. (Rte. 4).

Another commanding point of view is *King's Down*, E. of Bathford, where the panorama embraces the Cotswold Hills, the Wiltshire chalk downs from Swindon to Alfred's Tower, the range of the Mendips, and immediately below the beautiful valley of Claverton.

(i.) To *Hinton Abbey* and *Farleigh Castle*. The quickest route is by rail to Freshford, from which the abbey is 1 m., and the castle 2 m. distant (Rte. 4).

(j.) To *Midford*, *Combehay*, and *Wellow* (5 m.) [more conveniently reached by the Somerset and Dorset line to Radstock (Rte. 25)].

The road leaves Bath by the Fosse-Way, up *Holloway*, on which stands St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital and Chapel, rebuilt by Prior Cantlow, 1495, crosses over *Odd Down*, and passes on its summit some of the stone-quarries and at the Cross Keys Inn a very good section of the *Wansdyke*. The *Ch.* of *South Stoke*, rt., has a Perp. tower and a Norman doorway. 3 m. l., *Midford Castle*.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Midford*. Rt. 2 m., *Combehay Park*, and the village of *Combehay*. A hill of about 2 m., climbed by the *Wansdyke*, leads from the hamlet of Midford to Charterhouse-Hinton (Rte. 4).

2 m. rt. of Charterhouse-Hinton, by the British *Ridge Way*, crossing

the highest tableland in Somersetshire, commanding wide and varied views, is *Wellow*, 5 m. from Bath (Rte. 25).

(k.) To *Englishcombe* and *Barrow Hill* (3 m.)—"English as against the Welsh on the other side of *Wansdyke*," (*Guest*)—a retired and pretty village, once the residence, according to Hoare ('Hist. of Ancient Wilts'), of our Saxon kings, and afterwards of the Bps. of Coutance. At a later period it was the site of a castle of the De Gournays, of which the mound and the fosse are still to be seen in the dell to the E. of it. Adjoining the ch. is a large buttressed *barn*, once belonging to the Prior and monks of Bath, who here stored the tithes of their many parishes round. Near the barn are 2 whimsical yew-trees, which have grown into one during a long embrace. The *Ch.*, which has a central tower, Norm., with later alterations, has a Norm. door and a fine Norm. arcade within. In the orchard by the ch. the *Wansdyke* may be traced, but in the 2nd field beyond the orchard it is in good preservation, running W.N.W., with the ditch on the N. side.

Barrow Hill (an outlier of the oolite) crowns a very elevated ridge of land, and is a conspicuous object in almost every view from Bath. The Duke of Monmouth bivouacked near this place on his way to Philip's Norton.

(l.) To *Stantonbury Hill* (about 6 m. W.), a conspicuous outlier of the inferior oolite, capped by a very perfect British camp, on the line of the *Wansdyke*. The entrenchment is of 30 acres, and commands a fine distant view of Bath. E. is *Newton Park* (W. S. Gore Langton, Esq., M.P.), and *W. Houndstreet Park*, once the residence of the Pophams of Littlecot. The panorama is complete, and includes the Welsh mountains. W.N.W. is Dundry Hill, W. by S. the Mendips, in the distant S.S.W.

the town at Stourhead. Under the S. side of the hill lies the village of *Stanton Prior*.

(m.) To *Stanton Drew* (11 m.), about 5 m. from the Keynsham Stat. (Rte. 26.)

(n.) To *Ditteridge*, or to *Chapel Plaster* and the manor-house of *S. Wraxall*, from Box Stat. (Rte. 1).]

Resuming our route :—On leaving Bath Stat. the line crosses the Avon upon a timber bridge, remarkable for its obliquity, its 2 arches being each as wide as the river. Close on rt. is the old town bridge; on l., high above, Holloway Hill and Beechen Cliff.

108½ m. *Twerton Stat.*, “possibly a condensation of *æt wær-tune*, ‘the tower at the weir,’ or *æt ofer-tune*, ‘the town on the bank,’ of the Avon” (*Prof. Earle*). On rt., on the Avon, are large cloth-mills, the representatives of those established by the monks of Bath in the 14th cent. There is also a carpet manufactory. The *Ch.*, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, 1839, has a Norman doorway and font. *Fielding’s Terrace* perpetuates the name of the author of ‘Tom Jones,’ part of which was written during his residence here.

Beyond this stat. the train enters the *Twerton tunnel*, driven in the new red sandstone, and then dashes through the *Newton cutting*, in excavating which was discovered the Roman pavement once preserved at the Keynsham Station, but now removed to the Bristol Institution, but not yet laid down. It represents Orpheus charming the brutes.

110 m. l. are *Newton St. Loe*, a remarkably pretty and well-cared-for village. The *Ch.* stands on high ground, with beautiful surroundings. The *Ch.* is Perp., but has been restored with more cost than good taste. The S. arcade is ancient. There are remains of an ancient cross, and modern mansion.

Newton Park (W. S. Gore Langton). The poet Southey was at school at *Corston*. To the rt. is a pretty view, with the Avon winding through green meadows below, and *Kelston Round Hill* rising above, 730 ft. from the sea-level, commanding one of the finest prospects in the county.

111½ m. *Saltford Stat.* A neat village, where is the ancient mansion of the Rodneys, with park-like meadows stretching to the Avon. A deep cutting in the lias leads to the *Saltford tunnel*, 499 ft. long; on emerging from which, and crossing the River Chew, near its junction with the Avon, the line reaches

112¾ m. *Keynsham Stat.* (*Inns*: Lamb and Lark, Crown; Pop. 2245).

The *Church*, large and handsome, contains monuments of the 16th centy. to the Brydges, ancestors of the Dukes of Chandos, who had formerly a mansion here. The chancel is E. E.; the tower, of grand proportions, built in the reign of Charles II., the former tower, which stood on the N. side of the church, having been destroyed by lightning in 1634. There is an elaborate screen of the same period on the S. side, once stretching entirely across the E. end. E. of the *Ch.* are the remains of an abbey barn, gutted by fire a few years ago.

This town, according to tradition, was once the residence of St. Keyne, a British virgin, daughter of Braganus, Prince of Brecknockshire, who lived in a solitary wood infested with venomous serpents, which her prayers converted into stone; the ammonites of the neighbouring quarries being popularly regarded as the result of her prayer. Here also, as the legend reports, the leprous king Bladud was hired as a swineherd, and hence he drove his pigs to the spring of Bath. At a later period Keynsham was celebrated for its abbey of black canons founded by Wm. Earl of Gloucester, 1170; here the founder and many of his family

were buried, as well as Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, uncle of King Henry VII. There still remain some relics of this abbey and its dependencies in the curious *hostelry for pilgrims*, in the principal street, the *barn* by the ch., and the Norman gateway of the Abbots' court-house at Queen Charlton, 2 m. l. Some curious incised slabs, bases of columns, and fragments of sculpture have been recently discovered on the site of the abbey. In the formation of the Gt. W. Rly. a Roman villa was discovered at Keynsham, with a tessellated pavement removed to the Literary Institution at Bristol. The stone circles of *Stanton Drew* are about 5 m. to the l. of Keynsham.

[*Bitton*, W. of N. Stoke, is a pretty village, on a small lake or reservoir, which supplies water to several paper-mills. The *Ch.* is a remarkable one, and deserves careful examination. It was once cruciform, but has lost its transept. The nave, of very unusual length, 93 ft. 6 in., and, as first built, longer by the breadth of the tower, was originally Norm. of the 12th cent., but with indications of a building of much earlier date having preceded it, which was not totally destroyed when the new church was erected. There are Norm. doors N. and S., and a Norm. corbel table on each wall. To the N. is the Chantry of St. Catherine, built by Thomas of Bitton, Dean of Wells 1284, and Bp. of Exeter 1298, over the graves of his parents, and consecrated by the Bp. of Worcester in 1299. This has good trefoiled lancet windows, three very rich sedilia, and a piscina, and is altogether an excellent example of the date. The well-proportioned western tower was erected within the nave, *temp.* Edward III., but is of Perp. character. The W. door has its hood mould terminated by the busts of Edward III. and Philippa. The chan-

cel is Perp., with a groined roof, a large E. window of 5 lights, and well-proportioned sedilia. On the wall over the chancel-arch are the remains of a very early sculptured crucifix. The church contains some fine monumental effigies. One, half-raised, half-incised, commemorates Sir Thomas of Bitton of the 13th cent. A slab with a floriated cross is to the memory of Emmote of Hastings. In the N. aisle are two small effigies supposed to be of canons of Wells. The nave, roof, and seats are modern. There is some pretty scenery in the neighbourhood, particularly at *Hanham*, where the Avon flows between rocks for some distance. Here is a fine old Grange House, formerly belonging to the Abbot of Keynsham, now a private residence.]

Beyond this stat. commences a remarkable series of tunnels and cuttings. E. of *Brislington*, where the *Ch.* has a Norman font, is a cutting through the freestone, with vertical sides. *Brislington tunnel*, 3148 ft. long, is carried through the shale and sandstone of the coal-measures, and ventilated by 4 shafts.

Emerging from the last tunnel is the new red sandstone, which here covers up the coal; the line crosses the Avon by a handsome Gothic bridge of stone, and amidst dust and smoke enters the suburb of Bristol.

118½ m. BRISTOL Stat., common also to the rlys. to Exeter and Gloucester. (*Inns*: Royal Hotel, College Green, very good; Grand Hotel, Broad Street. At Clifton, the Down Hotel; St. Vincent Rocks Hotel; Queen's Hotel; Imperial Hotel, Clifton Down Stat. Pop. of the Parliamentary borough, 206,503.) [Bristol is a great centre of land and sea communication. Railways branch out from it N.E. to Gloucester, S.W. to Exeter, E. to Bath; placing it in connection

with the whole of the Midland, Gt. Western, and S.-Western systems of railways. Shorter lines run to the New Passage, and by crossing the Severn to S. Wales : to Avon Mouth ; and to Portishead for the Cardiff and Newport steamers. Steamers afford direct communication with S. Wales, N. Devon, and Ireland ; and also run to Liverpool, Glasgow, London, Bordeaux, and Rotterdam.]

BRISTOL, a city and county in itself, locally situated in the counties of Somerset and Gloucester, but chiefly in the latter, the capital of the west, and long the second city of Great Britain, stands in the valley of Avon, and on the slopes of the hills rising from the river just where it begins to be tidal. It was the centre of extensive commerce when Liverpool was unheard of, and was long the exclusive seat of the West India trade, and is still one of the chief resorts of our mercantile navy.

The early prosperity of the city was chiefly owing to the natural port afforded by the deep oozy beds of the Avon and the Frome, which here unite, and the ready communication afforded to the Bristol Channel, and thence to the open sea. In later times these natural advantages were increased by the proximity of extensive coalfields.

Tradition identified Bristol with *Caer-Oder*, "the City of the Chasm," mentioned in the *Triads*. But this story is pronounced by Dr. Guest to be fabulous. The foundation of the city has been assigned on little better grounds to the British king *Dyfnwal Moelmyd*, famous in Welsh legendary lore, c. 570, and his sons *Bran* and *Beli*, better known by their Latinised names *Brennus* and *Belinus*, whose statues are still posted on *St. John's Gate*. We know little of its history in Saxon times, but it evidently grew in wealth and prosperity, and had a mint in the time of *Ethelred II.* (987-1016). At

the time of the *Domesday Survey* it was rated higher than any town, save London, York, and Winchester. In 1088 Bristol was held by *Godfrey, Bp. of Coutances*, in favour of *Duke Robert* against *Wm. Rufus*, on whose defeat it was conferred by the *Red King* on *Robert Fitz Haymo*, his companion on his fatal hunting in the *New Forest*, whose daughter *Matilda*, by marriage, carried the Lordship to *Robert, Earl of Gloucester*, bastard son of *Henry I.* He erected the *Castle* c. 1126, on the isthmus between the rivers *Avon* and *Frome* to the E., commanding the entrance to the town, and overawing the burghers. The castle was built with stone imported from *Caen*, the tithe of it being devoted by "the *Red Earl*" to the *Priory of St. James*, which he had recently founded. One of the first occupants of the castle was *Duke Robert*, who was entrusted by *Henry I.* to his son's keeping. From Bristol he was transferred to *Cardiff*, where he died. The fortress was hardly completed before it was invested by the forces of *Stephen*. The *Earl of Gloucester* was the chief champion of the *Empress Maud* in her claim to the English throne, and Bristol consequently became the head-quarters of her party, whence they spread rapine, devastation, and acts of cruelty and license all round. On the capture of *Stephen* at the battle of *Lincoln*, 1141, he was marched across England to Bristol, and imprisoned in the castle, where he was, it is said, loaded with chains in consequence of his attempts to escape. After 9 months' captivity he was exchanged for the *Earl of Gloucester*, who had been captured at *Stockbridge*, after raising the siege of *Winchester*, the queen and her son being detained as hostages at Bristol, till the completion of the exchange. *Maud* placed her young son, afterwards *Henry II.*, in *Bristol Castle*, where he resided 4 years, 1142-1146, under

the care of his uncle, the Earl of Gloucester, "whose instruction," says Lord Lyttleton, "laid the foundation of all that was afterwards most excellent in him."

In 1247 the first bridge was erected over the Avon. It was mentioned in a charter of Henry III. The building of this bridge, by the union of the city with the suburb of Redcliffe, greatly increased its prosperity, which was also advanced by the erection of the Priory of St. James, in 1130, and the Monastery of St. Augustine, now the Cathedral, by Rob. Fitzhardinge, in 1142, and the gathering of inhabitants round them. King John having married Isabella, the d. of the Earl of Gloucester, the "lady of Bristowe," his visits became frequent, and to him is due the charter which laid the foundation of the franchises of the city. The castle in interchange with Corfe was the place of the long dreary imprisonment of his niece Eleanor, "the Damsell of Brittain," Prince Arthur's sister, from 1202 to 1240. She was annually brought out and shown to the people, to do away with the only too natural suspicions of foul play. This perhaps was also the scene of the compulsory tooth-drawing, of which unlucky Jews, some brought hither from Southampton, were the subjects. One, it is said, was sentenced to lose a tooth every day until he paid John 10,000 marks, and gave in after the loss of 7. In 1216, the boy-king Henry III. kept his Christmas in the castle, as did his son, Edward I., in 1285, who, when Prince of Wales, had besieged and taken it after the battle of Evesham, 1265. It was the scene of a royal marriage in 1293, when his daughter Eleanor espoused the Earl of Bar.

In the next reign Bristol played a conspicuous part in the disgraceful events of which the king's love of favourites was the cause. Hardly was Edw. II. seated on the throne than he accompanied Gaveston here,

1308, when he was about to set sail for Ireland, of which he had been appointed governor. In 1312 "the Great Insurrection" took place, and Bristol was held by Lord Badlesmere, the custos of the castle, and the burgesses, for 3 years against the king, and was finally taken in 1316. In 1320 the castle and town was granted to the reigning favourite, the younger Despenser; and in 1326 received the fugitive monarch, who had fled hither pursued by the execrations of the whole kingdom, and here took shipping with his favourite for Lundy, on his way to Ireland. The castle was held by the elder Despenser, and was besieged and taken by Isabella. Despenser, in spite of his venerable age of 90 years, suffered the savage death of a traitor, and was gibbeted in complete armour for 4 days, when his body was given to the dogs. The council of the nation sat in the castle, and after summoning the king to his post, proclaimed Prince Edward guardian of the realm left without a ruler. The next year, 1327, saw the unhappy king once more at Bristol, on his way from his prison at Corfe to the place of assassination at Berkeley, to which he was removed under cover of night, April 5, in consequence of a plan of some of the burgesses, moved with pity for their dethroned monarch, to aid him in escaping beyond sea. In 1348, Bristol was visited by the Black Death. Richard II. visited Bristol in 1399 on his way to Ireland, when a trial of battle between 2 Scots took place, in which the appellant was defeated and hanged. The year 1400 saw another political tragedy, when Despenser, E. of Gloucester, and Lord Lumley, who, on the explosion of the conspiracy for the restoration of Richard II., had ridden as far as Bristol, were seized by the populace and beheaded at the High Cross. In 1446, Henry VI. visited the city, on which he con-

ferred a new charter. He was lodged at the Hospital of St. John Baptist, near Redcliff Church. Edward IV. was at Bristol in 1461, and glutted his vengeance by witnessing from the E. window of St. Ewen's Church, hard by the High Cross, the Lancastrian partisan Sir Baldwin Fulford and his two companions, led to execution. As one of the chief cities of his realm, Bristol was visited by Henry VII., not long after his accession, 1486. He was met by the mayor and corporation at Redfield, entered the city at Lawford's Gate, and passing the High Cross, where the clergy in their robes were waiting for him, was conducted with great state to St. Augustine's. Four years later the king paid another visit, when, not content with a present of 500*l.*, he fined every inhabitant worth 20*l.*, "because their wives went too fine." Elizabeth was at Bristol in 1574, and was welcomed at the Cross by Fame, "very orderly set forth by an excellent boy." On the way to her lodgings, "at Mr. John Young's, on St. Augustine's Back," "Salutation, Gratulation, and Obedient Goodwill," were awaiting her at the gate. On the Sunday she went to the Cathedral, "to hear a Sarmond, and an imme was sung by a very fine boy." In 1612 Anne of Denmark paid Bristol a visit, and occupied the same lodgings. Her reception gratified her so much that she said "she never knew she was queen till she came to Bristol."

During the Civil Wars of the 17th cent., Bristol played a prominent part. It was alternately in the power of either party, but ultimately became the chief Royalist stronghold in the West; and its surrender by Prince Rupert, 1645, was one of the greatest blows Charles's cause received in those parts. In 1642, in preparation for the struggle, the walls and gates were restored, and forts built on Brandon Hill and St. Michael's Hill. The feeling of the

citizens was divided, and on Essex marching to take possession of the city, Dec. 5, 1642, the gates were shut against him, but were opened to him on the importunity of the women; but his riotous conduct proved so offensive that in Feb. 1643, Col. Nat. Fiennes marched in and replaced him as governor. The following month, a plot was formed to open the gates to Prince Rupert and his brother Maurice; but it was discovered and frustrated the night of its intended accomplishment, Mar. 7. The 2 heads of the plot, Yeomans and Bouchier, suffered the death of traitors at the Nag's Head in Wine St. This execution so exasperated the citizens that they invited the king to lay siege to the city; and accordingly Prince Rupert, with 20,000 men, appeared before it July 22, and commenced the assault the next day. Three days later it capitulated, for which the king, who was at Oxford, ordered public thanksgivings, and started with his sons Charles and James to Bristol, where he arrived Aug. 3, and was lodged at Colston's House in Small St. Two years later, Sept. 11, 1645, Bristol was stormed by Fairfax, to the grievous discomfiture of the royal cause in the West. "Prince Rupert rode out of Bristol amid seas of angry human faces, glooming unutterable things on him; growling audibly, in spite of his escort, 'Why not hang *him!*' For indeed the poor Prince had been necessitated to much plunder."—*Carlyle*. His reception by his royal uncle was not more cheering, for he spoke of its surrender as "the greatest trial of inconstancy that has yet befallen me," and ordered the Prince to "seek subsistence beyond sea." Their new masters did not gain the goodwill of the citizens. The licentiousness of the soldiery under General Skippon was intolerable, especially when in 1647 they seized on one of the aldermen, and refused

to release him until they had received a month's pay and indemnity for their act. Cromwell himself visited Bristol in 1649 on his way to Ireland, returning after his bloody campaign in 1650. The next year, after the battle of Worcester, Charles II. rode through the city in disguise on his way to the south coast; the same year Ireton's body was brought from Ireland and received by the authorities of the city in state. The castle was "sighted" by order of Cromwell in 1655. In 1658, Richard Cromwell visited the city from Bath, and was received with great pomp, as was Charles II., who, in 1663, came over from the same place with his queen, James Duke of York, and Prince Rupert; the last-named not overwilling, one should think, to see a place connected with so much disgrace to his character as a commander. In 1685, the year of Monmouth's rebellion, Bristol contained many of his partisans, who were with difficulty restrained from an insurrection by the Duke of Beaufort, when Monmouth was known to be at hand with designs upon the city, which he was unwillingly forced to relinquish. In Jeffreys' "Bloody Assize," 3 rebels were executed here. The next year James II. was here with his son-in-law George of Denmark, and touched for the king's evil, leaving it for Sedgemoor to view the scene of the battle. William and Mary visited the city in 1689, and William alone on his return from Ireland in 1690, and Queen Anne in 1702.

The most noteworthy event in modern times was the disgraceful riot which broke out on October 31, 1831, during the violent excitement that accompanied the progress of the first Reform Bill; when, chiefly in consequence of a want of ordinary firmness in the civil and military authorities, the whole city was at the mercy of a furious rabble for

nearly 2 days, and 2 sides of Queen's Square, including the Mansion House and Custom House, as well as the Bishop's Palace, Jail, and Bridewell, were burnt down, and property to an immense amount destroyed.

The commercial importance of Bristol dates from a very early period. William of Malmesbury describes it as "full of ships from Ireland, Norway, and every part of Europe, which brought hither great commerce and much foreign wealth." In the 'Gesta Stephani,' it is spoken of as "almost the richest of all the cities of the country, receiving merchandize from neighbouring and foreign places in ships under sail." This brings before us one of the chief local advantages of Bristol as a port, that, owing to the tidal river and its soft oozy bottom, vessels were able to come into the heart of the city, and unload their cargoes at the quays under the merchants' windows. From a very early period Bristol was the market of the English slave-trade, as, many centuries later, it was one of the chief centres of that from Africa. From this shameful traffic the prosperity of the town began. The slaves were captured in Wales or bought in England, and exported to Ireland, which is described as being full of English slaves. This infamous commerce was at last checked by the earnest preaching of Wulstan, the Bp. of Worcester, to which diocese Bristol then belonged. The connection with Ireland continued. Dermot, king of Leinster, being expelled by his subjects, took refuge here c. 1170. A charter of Hen. II., 1172, assigned the city of Dublin, then almost drained of its inhabitants, to the men of Bristol, and an English colony was transplanted thither. Bristol was also the centre of mediæval mercantile maritime adventure. In 1497, under a patent granted by Henry VII., John Cabot and his son Sebastian, sailed from

Bristol in the "Matthew," and on June 24 discovered the mainland of America. In 1498 a fleet sailed under Seb. Cabot, which explored the N. American coast from Newfoundland to Florida, of which John Guy was the first colonist, and Rob. Thorne, both Bristol men, the first to form a commercial settlement in the newly discovered continent. Bristol has also been no less famous for its manufactures. The woollen manufacture was introduced in 1340, its chief seat being in Temple and Tucker Streets. Among the manufacturers Thomas Blanket is conspicuous, who is said to have given his name to that comfortable article of domestic economy. The first brass made in England was in 1705, at the Baptist Mills, by workmen brought from Holland, the copper being smelted by Sir Simon Clark. The production of zinc commenced in 1743, at Hanham-on-Avon, 2 m. from Bristol. From its being the chief seat of the West India trade, the manufacture of sugar was early established, and has only recently been discontinued through foreign competition. There were also early manufactories of glass and shot. Bristol was, as early as the time of Richard I., the only seat of the manufacture of soap; "Yea," says Fuller, "after London meddled with the making thereof, Bristol soap was found much cheaper." At the present time its manufactories, which are much assisted by the abundant supply of coal close at hand, are very extensive, including glass works, potteries, soaperies, tanneries, chemical works, copper, lead, and shot works, iron works and foundries, manufactories of anchors, chain cables, and edge tools, machine works, and cotton mills. The shoe factories engage numerous hands, that of Dyrham's alone employing about 1500. Fry's chocolate works, though not generally open to inspection, are among the most extensive

manufactories of the city. Tobacco is also an important manufacture. Bristol is also a great seat of the wool trade, and the Irish provision trade. Its connection with the West Indies and West Africa, though not of such importance as it once was, still causes a large import trade of sugar, rum, molasses, hemp, fruits, &c. There are few places of greater attraction to a traveller who takes an interest in the manufactures and trade of the country, or where, if provided with proper introductions, he can spend a few days more agreeably and profitably.

"Bristol, more truly Brightstow," says Fuller, "is *bright* in the situation thereof, conspicuous on the rising of a hill; *bright* in the buildings, fair and firm; *bright* in the streets, so cleanly kept as if scoured, where no carts but sledges are used; but chiefly *bright* for the inhabitants thereof, having bred so many eminent persons."

The following sketch from the brilliant pen of Macaulay portrays Bristol as it was at the latter part of the 17th century:—"Large as Bristol might then appear, it occupied but a very small portion of the area on which it now stands. A few churches of eminent beauty rose out of a labyrinth of narrow lanes built upon vaults of no great solidity. If a coach or a cart entered these alleys, there was danger that it would be wedged between the houses, and danger also that it would break in the cellars. Goods were therefore conveyed about the town almost exclusively in trucks drawn by dogs; and the richest inhabitants exhibited their wealth, not by riding in gilded carriages, but by walking the streets with trains of servants in rich liveries, and by keeping tables loaded with good cheer. The pomp of the christenings and burials far exceeded what was seen at any other place in England. The hospitality of the city was widely renowned, and

especially the collations with which the sugar refiners regaled their visitors. The repast was dressed in the furnace, and was accompanied by a rich brewage made of the best Spanish wine, and celebrated over the whole kingdom as Bristol milk. This luxury was supported by a thriving trade with the North American plantations and with the West Indies. The passion for colonial traffic was so strong that there was scarce a small shopkeeper in Bristol who had not a venture on board of some ship bound for Virginia or the Antilles. Some of these ventures indeed were not of the most honourable kind. There was, in the Transatlantic possessions of the crown, a great demand for labour; and this demand was partly supplied by a system of crimping and kidnapping at the principal English seaports. Nowhere was this system found in such active and extensive operation as at Bristol. Even the first magistrates of that city were not ashamed to enrich themselves by so odious a commerce. The number of houses appears, from the returns of the hearth money, to have been, in the year 1685, just five thousand three hundred. We can hardly suppose the number of persons in a house to have been greater than in the city of London: and in the city of London we learn from the best authority that there were then fifty-five persons to ten houses. The population of Bristol must therefore have been about twenty-nine thousand souls."—*Macaulay's* 'History of England,' vol. i.

The City was originally built on a peninsula of rising ground nearly surrounded by the rivers Avon and Frome, and occupied an oval walled area, the form of which may still be traced by the curved line of the lanes which mark the contour of the walls and ditch. The castle, "slighted" by Cromwell, occupied the neck of ground between the 2 rivers to the

E., filling a space nearly as large as the old town itself, and commanding all the approaches to it from that quarter. The neighbourhood of the Castle was far from being agreeable to the quiet burghers, who were continually complaining to the king of the levying of unjust tolls, the capture of their goods, and other acts of oppression perpetrated by the occupiers of the fortress. The river Frome, in Norman times, after washing the N. wall, took a bend to the S., and flowed along the line of Baldwin St., and joined the Avon some distance E. of its present mouth, close to St. Nicholas' Church. The wall was pierced by 4 principal gates, a ch. standing at each, and traversed by 2 main streets. At their intersection stood the High Cross (now at Stourhead, Rte. 12) with 3 more churches at the angles of the central area, and the Guildhall hard by. The 4 streets thus formed were, and are still, known as *High St.*, from the S.; *Broad St.*, from St. John's Gate, N.; *Corn St.*, from St. Leonard's Bridge or Blind Gate, W.; and *Wine* (or *Winch*) *St.*, from Newgate (where was the city prison), E. Corn St., now the most busy and imposing thoroughfare in Bristol, and the seat of its chief commercial buildings, was almost closed at its W. end by a small low gate, beneath St. Leonard's Ch. This was demolished in 1771, and the street was continued to the quay, under the name of *Clare St.* (in honour of Robt. Nugent, Earl of Clare, then member for the city). This was followed in 1775, by the formation of *Park St.* in what was known as "the Bullocks' Park," mounting the steep hill from College Green, which opened a free communication between the city and its western suburbs.

The Castle, so long one of the chief strongholds of the west, was dismantled, and its fortifications demolished by order of Parliament, in 1655. *Castle Gate*, leading from the

city, was taken down, 1766. The exterior walls and bastions still remain in the midst of modern structures, to the N. and E., where the names *Broad Weir* and *Castle Mill St.* tell of the time when the Frome, now running underground, expanded into a broad mill head. Some remains may be hunted up by the determined antiquary, at the farther end of the *Castle Green*, the platform of the rising ground on which the Castle stood, down a turning to the l. The 13th-cent. vaulted porch to the King's Hall still remains, in a degraded condition.

The *Bridge* over the Avon was built in 1247; the same year in which the Frome was diverted to its present channel. The present bridge was erected in 1768. The more ancient streets were built on arched drains, or "gowts" (Fr. *égouts*); and for a long time the apprehension of disturbing the masonry of these sewers kept all wheeled vehicles out of the city. As late as 1820, Cooke writes in his 'Itinerary,' "heavy carts are not admitted into this city for fear of damaging the arches of the vaults that are made underground for carrying off the soil into the rivers, so that the constant draught is by sledges, which renders the pavement in the highway exceeding slippery."

Nearly all the older streets of Bristol contain picturesque gabled houses, affording studies for the sketcher, which will repay the researches of any one who is careless of the smells, sights, and sounds he may encounter. The best route for any one anxious to see old Bristol is to go a short distance down Wine St., and turn l. into the *Pithay*, a narrow steep street of picturesque houses, which diverges into *Tower Lane*, and preserves the curved contour of the city walls, smoke-blackened fragments of which peep out continually among the quaint dilapidated houses. A postern arch will be passed rt., and *St John's Ch.* reached, standing actu-

ally on the wall, with its tower pierced by the city gate. Passing under this we enter *Christmas St.*, once one of the chief thoroughfares of the city, through which Q. Elizabeth and Anne of Denmark passed with all the pomp of royalty. The entrance of *St. Bartholomew's Priory* should be noticed rt. It is a porch with external and internal archways of Dec. and E. E. work, and a statue at the W. corner. Some small fragments of the priory remain in the warehouse behind. *Christmas Steps* should now be ascended; they form a steep climb from the lower part of the city towards *St. Michael's Ch.*, whose tower rises conspicuously above. At the top of the steps 2 rows of stone niches form seats for the weary. Overhanging the steps to the l. are *Foster's Almshouses*, founded, temp. Hen. VII., by a merchant of Bristol. The chapel is original, but was modernised when the Almshouses were rebuilt, 1702.

The CATHEDRAL is the first object to which the visitor will be inclined to direct his steps. This stands locally in Gloucestershire, but civilly in the county of the city of Bristol, on elevated ground rising from the rivers Frome and Avon.

The monastery, the church of which afterwards became the cathedral of Bristol, was founded, for Augustine canons, c. 1142, by Robert Fitzhardinge, who subsequently became Lord of Berkeley. Its site, on the right bank of the Avon, and on the highest ground close outside the walls of Bristol, was traditionally that of Augustine's oak, the great tree under which it was said the founder of the English Church met the British Christians in solemn conference. Fitzhardinge became a canon of his own monastery, and died here in 1170. His descendants, the powerful barons of Berkeley, who were liberal benefactors to all the religious houses in the neighbourhood

of their castle, continued the especial patrons of this monastery, and many of them were interred in its church. St. Augustine's was raised to the dignity of a mitred abbey, under the rule of John Snow (1332-1341). It was surrendered, among the greater abbeys, in 1538; and in 1542, when Bristol was included among the five new sees created by Henry VIII., its church became the cathedral of the new diocese, and the monastic buildings were assigned as residences to the bishop, the dean, and the chapter of canons. Bristol had hitherto been in the far-reaching diocese of Worcester. The liberty of the city, which embraced a considerable district, and the county of Dorset (up to this time in the diocese of Salisbury, to which it has now been restored), were assigned to the new see. The see was united to that of Gloucester in 1836, the bishop being elected by the chapters alternately.

The first bishop of Bristol was Paul Bush, Master of the College of Bonhommes at Edington, deprived by Queen Mary, as a married man, 1554. Among the bishops of this see, which was one of the poorest in England, giving rise to frequent translations to richer sees, may be noticed *Fletcher* (tr. 1593), afterwards Bishop of Worcester and London, father of the dramatist, who, as Dean of Peterborough, troubled the last hours of Mary Q. of Scots, by his exhortations to change her faith; d. 1596. *Lake*, the Nonjuror (tr. 1685), one of "the Seven Bishops," as was his successor, Trelawny (tr. 1689), the subject of the Cornish rhyme:—

"And shall Trelawny die?
There's 20,000 Cornish men
Will know the reason why."

Butler (tr. 1750), the author of 'The Analogy of Religion,' one of the most deservedly honoured names in the English Church. *Newton*

(d. 1782), the author of a well-known work on the Prophecies, and the learned *Kaye* (tr. to Lincoln, 1827).

*The church, as finished by Fitzhardinge, consisted of a nave with N. and S. aisles, a central tower with N. and S. transepts, a presbytery with N. and S. aisles, and a procession path at the E. end. To this original church—of which the only remains are in the walls of the transepts, and choir, and the piers of the crossing, the chapter-house, and vestibule—some additions were made during the E. E. period, including the Elder Lady-chapel and portions of the N. transept; and during the abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306-1332), the Norm. choir was replaced by that which now exists. After the completion of the choir, it is evident that it was contemplated—probably by the same architect—to rebuild the nave. It is perfectly clear, however, from the position of the 15th-cent. cloister, and other evidence, that the work was only commenced, never completed. The chapels on the S. side of the choir were probably added in the time of Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow* (1332-1341); to whom must also perhaps be attributed the Dec. work of the transepts. The central tower, as it now appears, was the work of Abbot *Newland* (1481-1515); who also added the groined roof to the N. trans. The vaulting of the S. trans. was completed by Abbot *Elliot* (1515-1526).

Bristol Cathedral has been too much underrated, and will reward careful study. The Norm. and Dec. portions are of unusual value and interest. The peculiar vaulting of the choir-aisles and the richly decorated monumental recesses in the work of Abbot Knowle may be regarded as the specialities of this cathedral, to which "justice has never been done either in an æsthetic or historical point of view."—*E. A. F.*

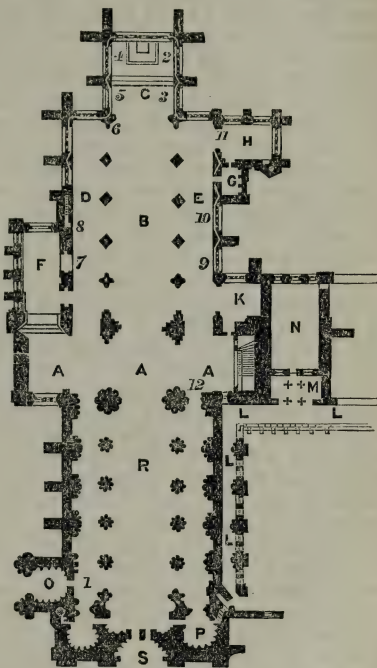
The exterior of the cathedral is comparatively uninteresting; al-

though its smoke-stained walls contrast well with the trees of St. Augustine's Green. The only general views to be obtained are from St. Augustine's (or the Upper College) Green. From the Lower Green there is a good view of the tower, with the whole of the transept and new nave.

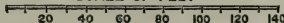
In the years 1861–1864 an extensive series of restorations was carried on within the cathedral, under the superintendence of Messrs. Pope and Bindon, local architects. The first stone of a new nave was laid in April 1868, and the work was vigorously carried on by a lay committee in conjunction with the Dean and

REFERENCES.

- A A A. Tower and Transept.
 B. Choir.
 C. Chancel or Sacrament-house.
 D. North Choir-aisle.
 E. South Choir-aisle.
 F. Elder Lady-chapel.
 G. Ante-chamber to Berkeley Chapel.
 H. Berkeley Chapel.
 K. Newton Chapel.
 L. Cloister.
 M. Vestibule of Chapter-house.
 N. Chapter-house.
 O. North Porch.
 P. Butler Tower and Baptistry.
 R. Nave.
 S. West Portal.
 1. North Entrance.
 2. Sedilia.
 3. Monument of Abbot Newland.
 4. Monument of Abbot Knowle.
 5. Monument of Abbot Newberry.
 6. Monument of Bishop Bush.
 7. Monument of Maurice Lord Berkeley, and Wife.
 8. Staircase to Triforium and Tower.
 9. Monument of Thomas Lord Berkeley.
 10. Monument of second Maurice Lord Berkeley.
 11. Monument of second Thomas Lord Berkeley.
 12. Doorway to Cloister.



SCALE OF FEET



GROUND PLAN, BRISTOL CATHEDRAL.

Chapter, from the designs of the late Mr. Street, and was brought to a completion in 1877, when it was opened for service Oct. 23. The new nave carries on the idea of Abbot Knowle's choir, with some slight modifications which distinguish the new work from the old. It consists of six bays, and is 120 ft.

long, 69 ft. broad, and 60 ft. high. In the second bay from the W. there is a noble gabled porch, with a parvis over, the gift of Mr. Killigrew Wait. Statues of the Evangelists stand on either side of the arched doorway, the space above which is filled with a bas-relief of the Adoration of the Magi. The design for the western

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*, 1882.]

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façade includes two towers, that to the S. designed to commemorate Bishop Butler, but both as yet incomplete. The centre is occupied by a very lofty, deep-set portal, to be eventually enriched with sculpture, above which is a rose window of 12 lights. The gable of the roof is concealed by a range of horizontal panelling. The side walls of the nave are divided by tall plain buttresses, similar to those of the choir, between which are very lofty windows with varied tracery of Dec. character. Small flying buttresses and a pierced parapet are a pleasing variation of Abbot Knowle's design.

Entering by the N. porch, the effect of space and majestic harmony is very striking. The view from the W. end of the aisles across the Ch. to the E. is one of singular effectiveness. The lofty arches are supported on clustered pillars of Doultling stone, 25 ft. high, with attached shafts of blue lias. The capitals are carved in foliage. The vaulting, both of the nave and aisles—the latter of very singular design (see *post*)—is of the same general design as that of the choir and its aisles. Monumental recesses of the same character as those in the choir, but varied in design, break the wall beneath each of the windows. The base of the S.W. tower forms the baptistery containing the font, the whole cost of which has been borne by the family of the late Bp. Monk. The wall arcades of this portion are very beautiful. Many of the windows are filled with stained glass, mostly by Messrs. Hardman.

• Passing eastwards we enter the transepts and crossing, which occupy the exact site of those of the Norm. Ch., the original walls having been to a great extent retained in Abbot Snow's recasting of the structure.

• “The Norm. work of the N. transept is confined to the coursed masonry below the E. E. jambs of the great N. window, and possibly

the core of the buttresses.” In the S. transept, the Norm. work is more extensive, but is chiefly visible on the exterior. Inside the transept a “Norm. cushion-shaped corbel may be seen, at the S.W. angle, supporting the later capital of the Perp. vaulting.”—*E. W. G.*

• Some part of the S. transept was rebuilt during the E. E. period, after the construction of the Elder Lady-chapel. The shafted jambs of the great N. window are evidently of this style. The tracery was inserted in 1704. This work may be assigned to Abbot *Long* (1237–1264).

• Both transepts were altered during the Dec. period, probably by Abbot *Snow* (1332–1341). Abbot *Newland* (1481–1515) constructed the groined roof of the N. transept, and the arches opening to the nave-aisles. The rich lierne vaulting of the S. transept, which springs at a higher level than any of the rest, is assigned to Abbot *Elliot* (1515–1526).

• The lower part of the tower-piers, “although transformed to something like the character of Perp. work, are Norm. in plan.”

• Many of the monuments with which the walls of the transepts were encumbered have been removed into the cloisters and the lay-clerk's vestry. Among these may be mentioned a monument for several members of the *Porter* family, including Jane and Anna Maria, the well-known novelists; a monument by *Bacon* for *Mrs. Draper* (the “*Eliza*” of *Sterne's* letters), d. 1778. The figures on each side of the urn represent “Genius and Benevolence;” a medallion for the *Rev. John Eagles* (author of ‘*The Sketcher*,’ and translator of *Homer's Hymns*), “Scholar, Painter, and Poet, b. at Bristol 1784, d. 1855;” and one for the father and mother of *Macready* the tragedian; a monument for *Cowper's Lady Hesketh*, who d. at Clifton in 1807; a tablet for *Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck*. In the S. transept

are—a very pretty small tablet by *Tyley*, of Bristol, for 3 children of *R. Walwyn, Esq.*; a memorial for *William Phillips*, subsacrist, who prevented the mob of rioters from profaning the cathedral in 1831; a monument by *Chantrey* for *Mrs. Crawford*, with some fine medallion heads on the upper part; and against the E. wall, a monument for Bishop *Butler*, d. 1752, designed by *Fripp*, of Bristol, with an inscription, by *Southey*. On the W. wall of the N. transept is a monument to the late *Miss Carpenter*, d. 1877, the earnest labourer in the cause of the education of the lower ranks, and *Miss Winkworth*, d. 1873, the translator of *Lyra Germanica*, &c.

Before the restoration of 1864, a choir-screen (dating shortly before Edward VI.'s accession) passed across the church 2 bays E. of the tower; thereby converting a portion of the actual choir into a small nave or ante-chapel. This arrangement seems to have been made when the church first became a cathedral. A modern screen, with a double arcade of pointed arches, now extends between the E. piers of the tower; and the whole of the choir is thus rendered available for the congregation. But its present arrangements are in violation of all precedent, and cannot be commended.

The existing *choir* consists of 5 bays, from the tower to the E. end of the aisles; beyond again is a chancel, or *sacrarium*, of 2 bays.

The work of the choir, with its aisles, was commenced and nearly completed during the long abbacy of *Edmund Knowle* (1306–1332), and belongs to the first or Geometrical division of the Dec. period. The Norman choir seems to have had a square east end, at the 3rd bay from the E. tower-piers—the actual choir consisting of the tower and 2 bays of the presbytery, leaving the E. bay for a *via processionum*. Abbot *Knowle*, retaining the Norm. walls

as far as possible, added 2 bays to the choir and its aisles, besides the Lady-chapel, projecting beyond them.

From the clustered piers of the choir spring the groined vaulting of both the choir and aisles. The capitals, of graceful leafage, have been touched with gold and colour. The lofty pointed arches between the piers are very pure and fine; the archivolts spring from the ground, and run round the arches continuously, without any capitals. The lierne vaulting of the roof has its compartments foliated, with the exception of those in the last bay of the choir, and of the 2 bays of the *sacrarium*. These are plain; the high altar having originally stood at the last of the richer bays, and a screen running across behind it, separating the 3 plainer ones to the E. This arrangement admitted of the usual processional path at the back of the altar. The easternmost bay formed the Lady-chapel.

* The *stalls*, which were originally Dec., of the same date as the choir, have been restored, added to, and contrary to all ritual traditions, placed in the 2 easternmost bays below the *sacrarium*, the dean having a throne opposite the bishop. The modern carving of the episcopal throne, and that of the sides of the principal seats, is good. Some of the ancient misereres deserve notice. On one is a fox preaching to geese; and on another a tilting with brooms between a man and a woman—one mounted on a pig, the other on what seems intended for a turkey-cock.

* The organ is on the N. side of the choir.

* The *sacrarium* is of the same date and general character as the choir. It is of 2 bays, the easternmost of which is raised by a single step. The window in each bay corresponds to that opposite; the two W. windows being of unusual

and beautiful design. All the windows have transoms, and the heads of the lower compartments are filled with rich and peculiar tracery. An open parapet (new, and part of the recent work), with triangular headings, runs at the foot of the windows.

The *E. window*, which fills the whole of the end above the reredos, is of pure Dec., and of singular beauty in tracery and design. The glass, according to Mr. Winston, dates from about the year 1320. In 1847 the window was completely restored, and "has lost nothing of its interest by the process." A good deal of modern glass, however, was necessarily used. The general effect is admirable. There is much white silvery glass, from which the brilliant colours shine out like jewels.

"The window represents a stem of Jesse. The lower lights contain figures of the Virgin and Infant Jesus, as well as prophets and kings. Each figure is enclosed in an oval panel, formed by the ramifications of a vine-branch. Some of the foliated scrolls in the heads of the lower lights (which are principally original) are remarkably graceful in design. In the three upright lights above are the crucified Saviour, the Blessed Virgin, and St. John the Evangelist. Original parts of all these figures remain."

"In the upper tracery lights is a display of heraldry, of singular excellence."

The four side windows of the chancel are filled with very rich and interesting ancient glass, of the same date and character as that in the *E.* window, re-arranged during the late restorations. The first window from the *E.*, on the *N.* side, contains merchants' marks, and was therefore in all probability the gift of a Bristol trader.

The *reredos* below the *E.* window, which has been elaborately gilt and coloured, has been restored since

1839, when a Corinthian structure of wood was removed. Of the 3 arched recesses the 2 at the sides are ancient. Above these recesses are corbel-heads and shields of arms, probably those of the first and second Edward, Berkeley, and De Clare.

A row of panels, with shields of benefactors (of Perp. date, and probably placed there by Abbot *Burton*, 1530–1536), which formerly ran along above the reredos, are now placed in the passage under the *E.* window.

In the first bay on the *S.* side are the *sedilia* (2), modern (but copied from the ancient), and of very great beauty. They are in 4 divisions, with rich canopies of leafage, supported by shafts of red serpentine. In the next bay on this side (3) is the mitred effigy, with pastoral staff, of Abbot *Newland*, or *Nailheart* (d. 1515), the constructor of a portion of the transept, called the "good Abbot" from his charitable deeds. Two angels sustain a shield at his feet, with his bearings, a bleeding heart pierced by three nails, and the initials *I. N.* The effigy is placed in one of the remarkable recesses which are among the characteristic features of this cathedral, and which formed part of the Dec. work commenced by Abbot Knowle. There are eight recesses in the walls of the chancel and aisles. The form of the arch, and the rich foliated decoration, with the five projecting finials, which surround it, are altogether unusual. Similar recesses occur in the *S.* aisle of Redcliffe Ch., in the *S.* aisle of St. David's Cathedral, and in Berkeley Castle, where a doorway has a somewhat similar heading. (The monastery at Bristol was, it should be remembered, the burial-place of the Berkeleys, and under their especial patronage.)

A brass plate let into the wall below Abbot *Newland*'s tomb records the place of interment of Bishop *Butler*.

On the N. side of the chancel are two of Abbot *Knowle's* decorated recesses. Within that nearest the altar (4) is the effigy of this abbot himself, the rebuilder of the greater part of his church. It was Abbot *Knowle* who refused to receive the murdered body of Edward II.—which was afterwards interred in the abbey church of Gloucester (see that cathedral), to the great advantage of the Benedictines there. In one of the lower recesses (5) is the effigy of Abbot *Newberry*, a great benefactor to the church, who died in 1463.

In passing into the N. *choir-aisle* (n), the eye is at once attracted by the vaulting of the roof, which is altogether unusual. The choir and its aisles are of the same height; and “to carry out this arrangement the following ingenious construction has been adopted. A transom, as we must call it, has been thrown across the aisles from the outer walls to the capitals of the choir-pillars. These are supported on arches springing from attached shafts on each side of the aisle, and in the spandrels formed by these are lesser arches, so that the transom is supported by the points of three arches. From the centre of the transom springs a vaulting-shaft which carries the groining of the roof. A horizontal buttress is thus obtained, which receives the thrust of the groining of the choir, and carries it across the aisle to the external buttress. The windows, which have transoms, are especially to be noticed for the beauty of their Dec. tracery. A stringcourse, with the ball-flower, runs immediately under them in each aisle.

The E. windows of the choir-aisles are filled with glass coloured with enamels. They date from the reign of Charles II.; and although it is traditionally said that they were presented by Nell Gwynne, it is more probable that they were the offerings

of *Henry Glemham*, Dean of Bristol from 1661 to 1667, and afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, whose arms are repeated 3 times in the window of the S. aisle, and once in that of the N. The subjects (arranged as type and antitype) in the N. *aisle* are—in the centre, the Resurrection; below, Jonah delivered from the whale. On the rt., above, the Ascension; below, Elijah taken up to heaven. On the l., above, the Agony in the garden; below, Abraham about to offer up his son. Much of the original enamelled glass has been lately replaced by “pot glass.”

Under this window was a very magnificent reredos of canopied niches, now much mutilated, and almost hidden by modern monuments, of which the chief is an elaborate Jacobean monument for *Robert Codrington* (d. 1618). It was restored by Sir Bethel Codrington in 1840, when it was removed from the chancel. In front is a marble figure, by *Bailey*, of *Harriet Isabella*, wife of *John Middleton*, of Clifton, d. 1826. The figure, which kneels, with the hands clasped on the breast, is graceful, and far more appropriate than most others of its class. At the side, and under the first bay of the choir (6), is the tomb of *Paul Bush*, d. 1558, the first bishop of Bristol. A “cadaver” rests under a canopy supported on Ionic shafts. Under the window, in this first bay, is *Bailey's* very fine bust of *Robert Southey*, “born at Bristol, October, 1774;” behind it is one of Abbot *Knowle's* recesses.

The 2nd bay contains a similar recess. In the 3rd is a monument for *William Powell*, the tragedian, d. 1769. The window above is half blocked by the wall of the Lady-chapel. The lower part is disfigured by monuments.

The 4th and 5th bays open into the Lady-chapel, of earlier date than the existing choir, which was connected with it, as at present,

by Abbot Knowle. In the 4th bay, between the choir and the Lady-chapel, is a high altar-tomb with effigies (7), under a groined canopy. The effigies are no doubt those of *Maurice, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1368), and Elizabeth his wife. Over the armour of the male figure is a surcoat with the Berkeley arms. The helmeted head rests on an abbatial mitre (the crest of the Berkeleys—assumed in reference to their extensive Church patronage). The lady wears the veiled head-dress.

The groined canopy above this monument, and a similar one in the next bay, should be noticed. The panelling of the vault is carried on 3 small brackets, springing from the wall.

In the 3rd bay of this aisle a door opens to a staircase leading to a wall passage running round the church, the view of which from the side of the E. window, is remarkably fine. The corbels in this staircase are Norman, and show it to have been part of Fitzhardinge's church.

The *Lady-chapel* (generally called the *Elder Lady-chapel* (F), because the altar of the Virgin was removed to the E. end of the church after Abbot Knowle had rebuilt the choir) is entered from the N.E. corner of the transept, and from the College Green through a Perp. doorway in the westernmost bay, made by Abbot *Somerset*, 1526–1530. On the spandrels are the arms of Berkeley, and those of the monastery impaled with those of Somerset. The chapel is E. E., and dates, according to Mr. Godwin, from the time of Abbot *John*, 1196–1215. The mouldings and general character indicate a very early period of Gothic architecture. The chapel is of 4 bays, the windows in which are triplets with inner arches, of which those at the sides are gracefully foliated. The detached vaulting-shafts are of Purbeck marble. The sculpture of the capitals and stringcourses is unusually good; and

the spandrels of the wall-arcade are filled with grotesque designs which are full of spirit and character, greatly resembling the sculpture in Wells Cathedral, much of which is of the same date. Remark especially—a goat blowing a horn, and carrying a hare slung over his back; a ram and an ape playing on musical instruments; and St. Michael with the dragon (?); below is a fox carrying off a goose.

The blank arches on the S. side of the chapel resemble those of the windows opposite, but “on looking carefully at the S. side, we see that the whole has been reconstructed. In order to bring in two arches of communication to the choir-aisle, the upper arcade, corresponding to the windows on the opposite side, has been cut short, and a stringcourse of the same character as the vaulting-ribs has been built in.”—*E. W. G.* The E. wall and window and the groined roof are of E. Dec. character and may be fairly assigned to Abbot, Hugh of Dodington, 1287–1294.

Under the E. window is a tablet with *Mason's* lines in memory of his wife, d. 1767, which deserve to be read. There are also monuments to *Dr. Elwyn* (d. 1840) by *Bailey*, and to *Mrs. Elwyn* by *Chantrey*.

The *S. choir-aisle* (E) (part of Abbot Knowle's work) precisely resembles the N. aisle in its vaulting and general character, with the exception of the W. bay, which Mr. Godwin assigns to Knowle's successor, Abbot *Snow*, 1332–1341.

The enamelled glass in the E. window is of the same date as that in the corresponding window in the N. aisle. The subjects are—in the centre, above, Our Lord driving the Money-changers from the Temple; below, Jacob's Dream; on the right above, the Tribute Money; below, Melchizedek and Abraham; the subject on the left above is uncertain; below, the Sacrifice of Gideon.

Under this window is a modern monument.

In the 3rd and 4th bays from the E., within 2 of Abbot Knowle's recesses, are effigies of 2 of the Berkeleys. The most W. (9) of these is that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1243). He wears the long surcoat, over a hawberk of mail, under which appears the haketon, which is not often seen. His poleyns, or knee-caps, should also be noticed. On his left arm is a shield with the Berkeley bearings. The effigy in the next recess (10) is that of the 2nd *Maurice, Lord Berkeley* (d. 1281). Some ancient colouring was discovered on these effigies. On the label and on the inner moulding of one of these recesses the mistletoe is represented, perhaps a solitary instance of the use of this plant in ecclesiastical decoration.

In this arch, in the 2nd bay from the E., a door opens to a small ante-chamber (G), through which a chapel called the Berkeley Chapel (H), and now serving as a vestry, is approached. The *ante-chamber* has much that is curious and unusual. On the S. side are 3 ogee arches, with niches between. The finials and the ornaments in the spandrels are unusually large and elaborate. Other niches or recesses, the use of which is uncertain, occur over the door, and in the N.E. corner. The roof, with its detached curved ribs, may be compared with the "skeleton" vaulting under the roodlofts in St. David's and Lincoln Cathedrals, and in Southwell Minster. Round the label of the doorway entering the chapel is a remarkable moulding, in which the ammonite is represented. This fossil, which is sometimes represented in the churches of the chalk districts (as in St. Mary's Church, Guildford), and which occurs also in Bp. Alcock's chapel at Ely, is found in profusion in the oolite quarries at Keynsham on the Severn, between Bath and Bristol (see *ante*).

The fire-place, with chimney, used for baking the hosts should not be overlooked.

The *chapel* itself, now used as the song-school, may have been erected by Thomas de Berkeley after the death of his wife Margaret in 1337. There are 2 windows toward the E., the soffits of which are ornamented with a gigantic ball-flower; and the peculiar foliage on some of the capitals should be remarked. Under each of the windows was an altar, the steps and piscinæ of which remain.

Between the chapel and the aisle the wall is pierced by the peculiar arch of Abbot Knowle; and under it, in the thickness of the wall, is an altar-tomb (11), much ornamented, and containing 5 shields, charged with coats of the Berkeley, Ferrers, and De Quincey families. The tomb in its present state is no doubt that of *Thomas, Lord Berkeley*, d. 1321, whose wives were of those families; but the lower part, with its very fine foliage, is of E.E. date, and may possibly have been removed from another part of the church. The Berkeley arms occur also in the spandrels of the door of the ante-chamber.

Opening from the westernmost bay of this aisle is a chapel (K) known as the *Newton Chapel* (from members of that family who are buried there). The S. wall divides it from the chapter-house, with which it is parallel. It has, however, been much altered, and the arches, half cut off, in the S. and W. walls show that it was interfered with when the transept was completed. In this chapel are monuments for *Sir Richard Cradock*, Justice of the Common Pleas, d. 1444, and 17th-cent. monuments for members of the Newton family; cumbrous structures, but good examples of their time. Here is also a monument by *Westmacott* for *Elizabeth Stanhope*, d. 1816; and one by *Bailey* for Bishop *Gray*, d. 1834.

A door in the W. wall of the S. transept (12) leads to the small remains of the cloisters, very late Perp. partly rebuilt and the windows filled with stained glass, and the walls furnished with some of the monuments from the transept. Other monuments are placed in the *Lay Clerk's Vestry*, formerly the *Monks' Day-room*, to the S. of the chapter-house. The most remarkable is a stately Jacobean pile with a semi-recumbent effigy to Sir Charles Vanner, d. 1830. From the E. walk of the cloister (L), the vestibule of the chapter-house (M) is entered. Both vestibule and chapter-house are Transition Norman, and belong to the original building of Fitzhardinge; but to its second, or richer, period. In the *vestibule* the arches from N. to S. are round, whilst those from E. to W. are pointed. The nail-head moulding runs round the arches, and the capitals are cushioned.

The *Chapter-house* itself (N), greatly enriched with zigzag and cable mouldings, is at present of 2 bays, but was originally of 3. It is a parallelogram (like the early chapter-houses of Oxford, Gloucester, Exeter, and Chester), the dimensions of which are now 42 ft. by 25 ft., but originally were 71 ft. by 25 ft. In the E. wall (which is recent) are 3 windows. In the W. wall, below, are 3 circular arches, that in the centre being the doorway. The walls are arcaded, and the whole interior, including the shafts of the wall-arcades, and the groining, which is quadripartite, are much enriched. On the restoration of the flooring in 1831, 12 stone coffins were discovered, which probably contained the remains of as many abbots.

Forming the covering-slab of one of these coffins was a remarkable piece of ancient sculpture of Norm. character, and perhaps coeval with the chapter-house, which is now in the canons' vestry, a small room

within the chapter-house. It represents the descent of our Lord into Hades, and the delivery thence of the "spirits in prison." The prostrate body on which our Lord treads is that of Satan, who attempted to prevent His entrance.

In the chapter-house are the scanty remnants of the chapter library, the greater part of which was burnt in the riots of 1831, when the bp.'s palace was destroyed, and the whole cathedral narrowly escaped conflagration.

At the S.W. corner of the cloister area is a beautiful E. E. doorway, which was formerly the entrance to the refectory. What remains of the refectory, much modernised, is used as the cathedral school and master's house.

The palace stood on the site of the abbot's lodgings at the S.E. corner of the cloisters. The traveller will see with interest the Dec. remains of the bishop's private chapel, famous for the cross erected in it by Bp. Butler, who spent 5000*l.*, ten times the income of the see, on the repairs of the palace in 1744. A dungeon, in which were some bones and iron instruments, was discovered in 1744 by the falling in of the floor under one of the apartments in the palace. The only means of entrance was by an arched passage, just large enough to admit one person.

Although the abbey of St. Augustine was small ("the number on the foundation was only 6, including officers, and at no time does it appear to have been more than 17"—*Godwin*), its arrangements were in every respect "as complete as those of the most noble monasteries." The great gateway, portions of the cloisters, and the gatehouse of the abbot's lodgings, are the chief existing remains.

The lower part of the *Great Gateway*, leading from Upper College Green to Lower College Green,

belongs to the second or richer period of Fitzhardinge's work, and is of Transitional character, like the chapter-house. The four receding orders of the archway are greatly enriched with zigzag and other mouldings, and an interlacing arcade lines the sides of the passage. "It may be regarded as a typical specimen of the style, sober and constructive, yet rich."—*Fergusson*. The upper part of the gateway is Perp., the work of Abbot Elliot; Mr. Godwin suggests, with some probability, that the Norman work of the gateway was rebuilt by Abbot Elliot before the upper portion was added. The statues of Abbots Newland and Elliot occur in the upper part of the front.

The *Deanery*, adjoining the abbey gateway on the W., and formerly known as the 'Dove House,' was enlarged by a N. wing by the famous Warburton, 1758. This wing has been removed to make room for a new street to the Hot Wells.

On passing through the Norm. gatehouse, we have l. the picturesque remains of the *Prior's lodgings*, with a two-storied oriel mantled in ivy. Below this is the *Lower College Green* (called in early documents the "viridis placea"), where stood an ancient chapel in which St. Jordan, traditionally one of the companions of St. Augustine of Canterbury, is said to have been interred. On the l. is the *gatehouse to the Abbot's lodgings*, with two richly-moulded Norm. arches, W. and E., now clogged with yellow wash, altered by Abbot Nailheart who has left his rebus on the wall above the outer arch, as well as on a late Perp. doorway beyond, which gives access to the Infirmary cloister, now the boys' playground.

College Green, to the N. of the cathedral, was the burial-ground of the abbey. It was in the last century the favourite promenade ground for the beaux and belles of Bristol. In

the centre stood the *High Cross*, brought thither from its original site, but again taken down in 1768 because it interfered with the convenience of the promenaders. In 1742 Pope wrote: "The College Green is pretty, set with trees, with a very fine old cross of Gothic curious work in the middle, but spoiled with the folly of new gilding it, that takes away all its venerable appearance." Its stones were piled up within the cathedral till Dean Barton, whose brother was incumbent of Stourton, presented them to Mr. Hoare of Stourhead, by whom it was re-erected in his park (see Rte. 12). A modern copy of the building, with vacant niches, and destitute of the surmounting cross, in deference to the Protestant feelings of the citizens of Bristol, was erected at the S.E. of the green in 1850.

On the N.E. side of College Green stands *St. Mark's* or the *Mayor's Chapel*. It is one of the most curious and interesting architectural remains in Bristol, and contains some remarkable monuments. It was the chapel of the Hospital or Priory of *Gaunts*, founded by Sir Maurice de Gaunt, c. 1229, in the suburb of Billeswyck (*Bellus Vicus*), for the support of a chaplain and the relief of 100 poor daily. It was placed by the founder under the management of St. Augustine's. His nephew and heir, Rob. de Gournay, made it a distinct house. It was granted at the Dissolution to the mayor and burgesses, and was converted into a chapel for the mayor and corporation 1722; before this, it was used by the French Protestants. The infamous Bedloe, Oates' coadjutor, was buried by charity near the door from College Green, 1680. *Orchard Street* stands on the site of the orchard of the hospital.

The plan consists of a long narrow nave and choir, chiefly E. E.; the

windows and arches having mouldings of singular intricacy and richness; a Perp. tower attached to the centre of the S. aisle, which has chapels appended.

The whole has suffered from costly and well-intentioned, but not well-designed, fittings and decorations, especially the heavy organ-loft and canopied seats for the mayor and aldermen, by which the interior is crushed. The *S. aisle* is Dec., and its W. window a singularly rich example of the style, profusely covered with ball-flower. The windows contain a great deal of old glass, of different dates and various countries, chiefly German, the greater part of which came from Fonthill. Much of it will repay attentive examination. In the E. window are cinque-cento figures of St. Barbara and St. Catherine. The *eredos* is a rich piece of Perp. tabernacle work, restored in 1830, after the ancient model. The *chancel* contains to the S. some fine sedilia, and a stately monument to Thomas James, mayor and member of Parliament of the city; and one with two kneeling figures to Thos. (d. 1598) and John Aldworth (d. 1615), famous in the history of the commercial connection of Bristol and Newfoundland; and to the N., in arched sepulchral recesses, the effigies of Sir Thos. Berkeley (d. 1361), in plate-armour, and Katharine his wife; and of Miles Salley, Abbot of Eynsham and Bp. of Llandaff (d. 1516), a very fine figure, in the full episcopal costume, with mitre and pastoral staff, and official ring worn over the jewelled gloves.

To the S. of the chancel is the *Poyntz Chapel*, now used as a vestry, "in composition and detail one of the most elegant models of the Perp. style remaining. It has a fan-tracery roof, niches, and other embellishments, rich, but not overloaded with ornament."—*Rickman*. Observe the altar part, the pavement of Moorish

azuleias, brought from Spain, worked in transparent enamel, and the interpenetrating mouldings of the side recesses.

The *S. aisle* is very good Dec. The blocking of the side windows by houses built up against it renders it dark, but the effect is fine. The E. window is occupied by a wonderful Thomas à Becket from Beckford's collection. Notice the beautiful effigy to Sir Henry de Gaunt (d. 1268), under an ogee canopy; on the W. wall the monument of Ald. Bengough, by *Chantrey*, and a singular portrait effigy of Hen. Cookin, a boy of 11 (d. 1627), represented on one knee, with a book in his hand.

To the E. of the S. aisle is the *Lady Chapel*, of late Perp., with a flat panelled ceiling. On an altar-tomb in the centre are the noble effigies of Sir Maurice de Gaunt (d. 1229), the founder of the priory, drawing his sword, and his nephew Robert Gournay. Both effigies are in chain-armour, with surcoats girdled round the waist, and their heads "en coiffé de maille." The whole E. wall is taken up with a wondrous structure in honour of Dame Baynton (d. 1667); the lady is kneeling, and smiling over her shoulder at one of her sons, who, with his brother, is drawing the curtain of the alcove. The chapel contains busts and monuments to many civic worthies, which need not be particularised. The visitor must not omit to observe the very remarkable *squint* in the N.E. corner.

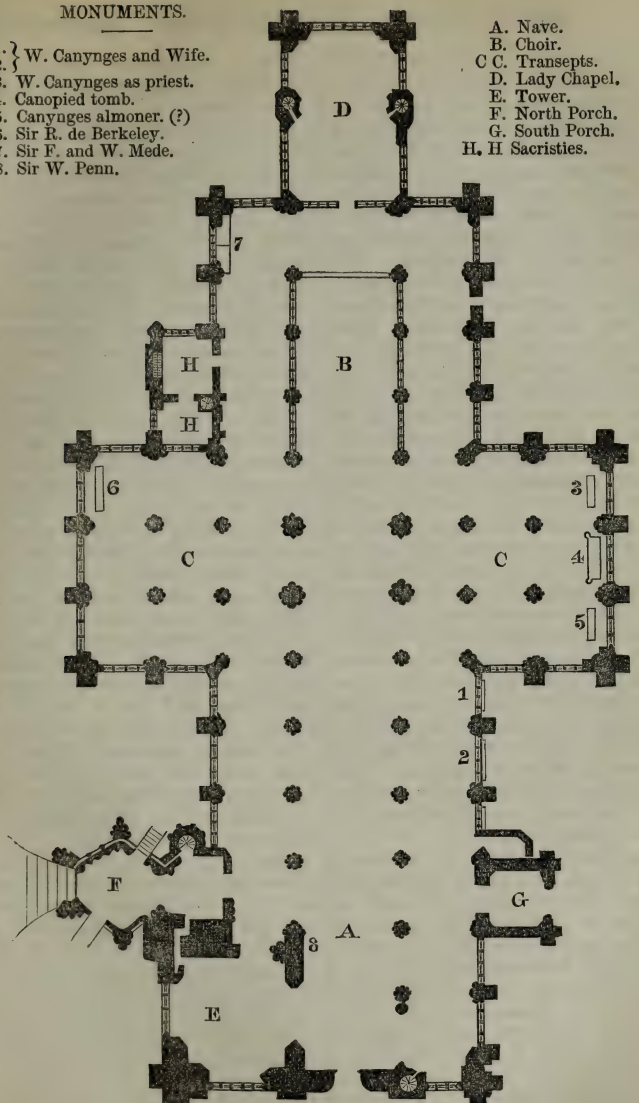
The visitor should now cross the Floating Harbour, either by boat or by the swing-bridge, and make his way by Queen Square to the Back Ferry, cross the Avon to Redcliffe St., and visit the church of

St. Mary Redcliffe, "the pride of Bristowe, and the western londe," not unjustly designated by Leland "by far the fairest of all churches," and by Camden as "the most ele-

MONUMENTS.

1. } W. Canynges and Wife.
2. } W. Canynges as priest.
3. W. Canynges tomb.
4. Canopied tomb.
5. Canynges almoner. (?)
6. Sir R. de Berkeley.
7. Sir F. and W. Mede.
8. Sir W. Penn.

- A. Nave.
- B. Choir.
- C C. Transepts.
- D. Lady Chapel.
- E. Tower.
- F. North Porch.
- G. South Porch.
- H. H Sacristies.



SCALE 1 10 20 30 40 50 100 FEET

ST. MARY REDCLIFFE.

Total length of church—externally, 250 ft. ; internally, 240 ft.

long.	broad.	high	long.	broad.	high.	long.	broad.	high.
Nave, 93 ft.	58 ft.	54 ft.	Transept, 116 ft. {	N., 47 ft.	50 ft.	Lady Chapel, 42 ft.	26 ft.	26 ft.
Choir, 60 ft.	58 ft.	54 ft.		S., 45 ft.	48 ft.		Tower and Spire, 267 ft.	

gant of all the parish churches I have ever seen." In stateliness, harmony of proportion, and general effect, it exceeds the cathedral, but it wants the interest derived from the architectural history of the latter. [The authorities of Redcliffe Church set an excellent example to other churches, by allowing its doors to be always open to all comers. The visitor will leave his offering with much more satisfaction in the collecting box for the restoration fund than in the hands of a vergier.]

The best approach is by the long narrow defile of Redcliffe St. The ch., high above the street, stands on a natural terrace of living rock, the colour of which gives its name to the locality, and is approached by broad flights of stone steps, which add dignity to the noble building. The view from this point is singularly attractive ; the richly decorated tower, W. front, the unique N. porch and transept, with an unusual array of flying buttresses, pinnacles, and pierced parapets, form a *tout-ensemble* of extreme architectural magnificence. The view from the S.E. is also very fine. The ch. being built on shelving ground, from S. to N., its height on the W., N., and E. sides is imposing. The Lady-chapel at the E. end is carried on a wide arch, beneath which is a thoroughfare.

The plan of the ch. is cruciform, with an attached tower at the W. end of the N. aisle, N. and S. porches, a projecting Lady-chapel, and sacristies to the N. The transepts have double aisles, a very unusual feature in parish churches, and by no means common even in cathedrals. It originally had a central tower, mentioned by W. Worcester in his 'Itinerary,' the lower portion of the walls of which still exist above the stone vaults, with arched doorway communicating with the roofs. Its restoration would add greatly to dignity of the edifice. The whole church is covered by Perp. vaults

of very remarkable richness and elaboration of detail, with skilfully carved bosses.

The present ch. stands on the site of one of high antiquity. Fragments of carved stone discovered in the walls during the restoration show that this church contained late Norm. work. In the 13th cent. indulgences issued for its repair prove that it was then dilapidated, and therefore not recently erected. Of 13th-cent. date, pure E. E., we have the lower part of the tower, the inner N. porch, and one corbelled vaulting shaft at the W. end of nave against the S. tower wall. Traces of the line of the vault springing from this corbel on either side may be faintly discerned on the tower wall. These may not improbably be remnants of a complete E. E. church, the piers of which stood on the site of the existing piers, which may possibly be the same, heightened and adapted on the later style. The next work is Dec., c. 1287-1300, including the tower and the outer N. porch. Then followed the S. transept of late Dec., passing into Perp., and the S. wall of the S. aisle of the nave with its remarkable stellate recesses. These portions may be assigned to Wm. Canynges the Elder, c. 1376. The S. porch and the spire followed almost contemporaneously.

The Lady-chapel, originally only of one bay, was in course of erection in 1385. The fabric of the church was gradually completed, and was brought to an end, c. 1440, by Wm. Canynges the younger, grandson of the elder Canynges, who, "with the help of others of the worshipful town of Bristol, kept masons and workmen to repair and edifye, cover, and glaze the ch. which his grandfather had founded in the days of Edw. III."

The clerestory of the chancel, N. transept and nave, which are exactly the same in design, together with the rich vaults, may be safely ascribed

to this period. In 1446 the spire was struck by lightning, and reduced to the truncated form which it exhibited till the recent restoration. The Lady-chapel was prolonged by the second bay, and the later windows of the S. transept and S. aisle set up at a little later date.

The visitor is advised to walk round the ch. and take a general survey of the exterior before he proceeds within. The *tower* is a very striking feature, from its mass and the richness of its decorations. It is of 3 stories, the first and second divided by a band of elegant niches, recently filled with statues. The third contains triple belfry windows, of beautiful proportions, under rich ogee canopies. The buttresses, of fine projection and richly decorated, are crowned with elaborate pinnacles; the whole is covered with a profusion of the ball-flower. The tower is crowned with a spire of exquisite proportions, which, after remaining truncated since the storm of 1446, has been recently raised to its full elevation of 267 ft., exceeding both Norwich and Chichester. The cap-stone was laid May 9, 1872. The *W. Front* is somewhat too narrow, and is dwarfed by the vast dimensions of the tower. The *W. window* is modern. The very beautiful turret at the S.W. corner should be noticed.

The *N. Porch*, immediately to the E. of the tower, is, perhaps, the most noteworthy feature in the ch. In plan and execution it is unique in England; but the very singular and elaborately carved door has a counterpart in the monastery of Batalha, in Portugal. In plan, it is a hexagon, with bold hexagonal buttresses at the external angles, excavated into magnificent niches, which are continued along the 3 sides, blocking the lower part of the beautiful Dec. windows. It is crowned by a dwarf upper story, with quadrangular openings, light-

ing a chamber above (see *post*), and a pierced parapet.

Continuing our walk, we notice how much dignity the fall of the ground gives to the N. elevation. Beneath the N. transept is a spacious and lightsome *Crypt*, now the *Choir Vestry*. From this point of view the height and dignity of the panelled clerestory may be appreciated, together with the imposing array of flying buttresses crowned with pinnacles which held up the groining within. E. of the transept against the N. aisle of the chancel is a building of 3 stories, with a chimney-stack, which formed the residence of the chantry priests. At the N.E. corner of the churchyard is *Chatterton's monument*, representing the boy in his Blue-Coat scholar's dress. It will be observed that the two bays of the *Lady Chapel* are separated by staircase turrets. These turrets originally stood at the angles of the chapel, the second bay being a later addition. Passing under this second eastern bay by an archway (as at the Lady-chapel at Gloucester) we find ourselves on the S. side of the chancel with the S. transept facing us. It will be observed that the clerestory of this transept is not panelled and that the flying buttresses are crocketed. The very remarkable clerestory windows (see *post*) should be noticed. The windows of the W. aisle of this transept, and of the S. aisle of the nave, are different from the aisle windows generally, the arches of which have nearly straight sides, with sharp corners resembling Wm. of Wykeham's window at Winchester Cathedral.

The S. porch (the usual entrance) is a fine specimen of rich Perp. The front is decorated with crocketed and pedimented niches; but the proportions are not good, and the door looks dwarfed by the heavy wall above. It appears to have been originally of one story, open to the roof. The present groining is a

modern insertion, and cuts off the side windows and niches.

The practised eye will have discovered in this circuit many points of difference in the architecture of the exterior, but the general appearance is uniform. The lofty clerestory is supported by flying buttresses, springing from massy pinnacles. Each bay contains a large and well-proportioned Perp. window, with elaborate tracery, and is richly panelled. The transepts have the same elevation as the nave and choir; but are narrow for their height, and need accentuation at the angles, as is the case with the E. end.

On entering by the S. porch, the visitor cannot fail to be struck by the richness of the decorations and harmony of the proportions. The general impression is one of singular lightness and loftiness. The nave is of 7 bays; the choir of 5; and the transepts of 3; the arches lofty and well-proportioned; the windows are very large, and many of them are filled with stained glass. The rich vault is carried on shafts springing without any break from the floor, which adds much to the general effect of height. There is no triforium either in nave or chancel, the space between the clerestory and the arcade being filled with panelling, which in the nave and chancel comes down to the hood-mould of the arches. The want of a horizontal stringcourse is much felt. In the transept a horizontal band of panelling produces a better effect. The windows of the *S. Transept* deserve especial attention. The end window, of unusual height and narrowness, is of flamboyant type. Those of the clerestory are set in a band of open quatrefoils, an almost unique design. The vault is 6 ft. lower than in the rest of the Ch. The N. window of the *N. transept* is a later copy of the S.

The *Choir*, of 5 bays, is of the

same general design as the nave. It is divided from the aisles by a low screen of open stonework. The E. arch on each side is occupied by a lofty close screen.

The *Lady Chapel*, of 2 bays, once shut off and used as a school, is now thrown open to the ch., from which it is separated by a stone screen. The windows are filled with gorgeous picture glass of a memorial character.

The *N. porch* is one of the most interesting portions of the church. It is divided from the church by a highly decorated screen of 2 stories, masking the wall of the narrower aisle of the E. E. church. The interior porch is good plain E. E., with an arcade, supported on Purbeck marble shafts, the capitals of which, and of the door shafts, deserve notice. It is covered by a quadripartite vault, and has a room over it. It communicates by a very fine shafted E. E. doorway with the external porch. This is covered with a very richly ramified vault, and is surrounded with canopies above a stone seat. The whole has been very elaborately and tastefully coloured. The carved cornice, and indeed all the sculptures, will repay close examination. In addition to the great N. entrance there are external doors to the W. and E., probably for processions. On the S.W. side is a relic chamber with ornamented openings to the porch. A newel staircase gives access to the treasury, in which the precocious and misguided genius, *Thomas Chatterton* (son of a lay clerk of the cathedral, and grandson to the sexton of this church), pretended that he had discovered in an old chest, known as "Canynge's Cofre," fragments of which with others are still preserved here, the MS. poem of Rowley, a priest of Bristol of the 15th century, and other ancient documents. [Chatterton was born on Redcliffe Hill, Nov. 20, 1752, and

was educated at Colston's School, in the dress of which he is represented on a monumental cross erected to his memory in the churchyard. His ambitious hopes of speedily attaining a high place among the poets of his day having been disappointed, he committed suicide by poison, when in a state of almost literal starvation, Aug. 24, 1770, at the age of only 17 years and 9 months.]

The *Monuments* to be noticed are (1, 2) those to Canynges and his wife Joan, formerly occupying a high canopied tomb of modern date, partially obscuring the great window of the S. transept, but now replaced in the remarkable stellular monumental recesses discovered behind modern wainscoting in the S. aisle; and (3), in the S. transept, one representing Canynges as a priest, said to have been brought hither from the college at Westbury of which he was dean, when that was burnt by Prince Rupert to prevent its being occupied by the Parliamentary forces; (4) in the W. aisle of same transept a similar effigy traditionally called "Canynges almoner," but without foundation. (5) In the same aisle a slab to William Canynges' cook, with a knife and skimmer incised; (6) to the brothers Sir Thos. and William Mede, c. 1475, with the wife of the former (7), a rich altar-tomb, under elaborate canopies, forming one design. (8) Everard Le French, 1350, in his robes as a magistrate, in the transept. (9) John Lavyngton, Vicar, c. 1393, a figure in demi-relief, on a stone coffin, under the tower. (10) Under the N. window of N. transept, a knight in mail on an altar-tomb, perhaps Sir R. de Berkeley; and (11) on the S. wall of the tower in the nave, removed from the S. transept, Admiral Sir William Penn (d. 1670), father of the founder of Pennsylvania, and a native of Bristol. His body was brought from London, where he died, and lay in state in

the city, and was buried with great pomp. His armour and heraldic insignia are suspended above the monument. In the chancel are some good brasses. In the Lady-chapel Sir John Inyn, Recorder of Bristol and Chief Justice of King's Bench, 1440. In the choir, John Jay and his wife Joan, 1480, and John Brooke, Serjeant-at-law, and his wife. The poets Southey and Coleridge were married in this ch. to the 2 Misses Fricker; the former leaving his wife at the ch. door, and starting immediately for Portugal. In 1653, 20 of the Dutch prisoners captured by Blake in his victory over Van Tromp were confined in the crypt of this ch.

Beneath Redcliffe Hill a considerable number of subterranean chambers and passages leading to the river have been discovered, probably once connected with contraband traffic. Opposite the W. end of the ch., St. John's Lane leads to the Quakers' burial-ground, on the N. side of which is a 13th-cent. hermitage, excavated in the red sandstone cliff.

Before the Reformation Bristol could boast of no less than 19 parish churches. Of these 14 still exist, and the majority deserve a visit.

St. Stephen's (to the rt. in going down Clare St.) is remarkable for its fine Perp. tower, one of the most elaborate in the W. of England, 133 ft. high, crowned with very light-pierced parapet and cage-like turrets, conspicuous in every view of Bristol; restored and the turrets rebuilt, 1862. The ch. is of rather late, but good, Perp., built by John Shipward, a merchant, and Mayor of Bristol, 1455. The *S. Porch* is very rich, with fan-tracery, but the style of ornamentation is flat and inexpressive. The interior, restored 1876, is plain, but stately. The arcades are of 7 bays, without any constructional chancel, remarkably fine and tall. The windows are broad and ill-proportioned.

In the N. aisle is an altar-tomb with male and female effigies under a beautiful ogee canopy, probably the monument of the founder and his wife. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a cinque-cento monument to *Sir Geo. Snygge* (d. 1617), Recorder of the City, with an effigy in full costume. Beneath the tower is an effigy of a civilian on an altar-tomb.

All Saints, on the S. side of Corn St., is almost embedded in houses and public offices: the Norwich Union Fire Office actually projecting into the ch. above the N. aisle, the old Rectory being equally intrusive on the other side, and cutting off the arches of the 2 W. bays, which retain their low Norm. pillars; the rest of the ch. is Dec., with late Perp. windows. At the E. end of the S. aisle is a monument to *Edward Colston* (d. 1721), the princely benefactor to Bristol by his educational and other charities, with a statue by Rysbrück, in a full-bottomed wig, under an Ionic pediment, with a long list of his numerous benefactions. The tower was rebuilt in 1716. This ch. was the seat of a guild of *Calendaries*, transferred hither from Christ Church by Robt. Fitzhardinge and Rob. E. of Gloucester, c. 1146. They had a library over the N. aisle, burnt 1466, when many of the records and archives of the city perished. These *Calendaries* were a body of clerks and laymen of very remote antiquity, who formed a kind of "Propaganda fide," pledged to do their utmost to convert Jews and infidels and educate youth, in addition to which they undertook the guardianship of the archives of the city and other literary treasures. They were under the government of a Prior or Dean, and weekly lectures were read by them in the 15th centy. [Compare with this foundation that of the *Domus Conversorum*, now the Rolls in Chancery Lane, established with somewhat similar objects.]

St. Werburgh's, which stood at the

corner of Small St., was a late Perp. ch., with a rich pinnaced tower. In it John Wesley preached his first sermon in Bristol, 1777. It was pulled down to widen the street, 1879.

Christ Church, formerly known as Holy Trinity, and the first seat of the *Calendaries*, at the corner of Wine St. and Broad St., is an Italian building, 1787, with a lofty and well-proportioned spire in the style of Wren's steeples, and a pleasing interior. The ch. is almost completely hidden by houses.

St. Nicholas, at the bridge, was erected 1762-8 at the cost of 6000*l.* on the site of an ancient ch., of which the finely groined *crypt*, c. 1503, is still preserved, and is well worth examining. The chancel of the former ch. was over the S. gate of the city, and was ascended by 12 steps. The present *Ch.* has a Batty Langley Gothic exterior, with a very well-proportioned taper spire. The interior is characteristically described in a former Guidebook as "one of the finest modern rooms that can be seen, 100 ft. by 50, and without a pillar!" The churchwardens' accounts are preserved, and are very curious.

St. Mary-le-Port (restored 1877), in the street of the same name, derived its title from being adjacent to the spot where, before the erection of Bridge St., ships unloaded their cargoes. It is a small Perp. building of no special interest, but contains the fine brass eagle desk from the cathedral sold as old metal by the Dean and Chapter, 1802, rescued from the melting-pot and presented to the ch. "on condition of its remaining here for ever."

St. Peter's, a little further to the E. in the street of the same name, is not of any special architectural interest. The lower part of the towers is Norm. In the *S. aisle* is a Gothic canopied tomb, with a female effigy of the Newton family. There is also

a brass of a priest, Rob. Loud, 1461, a stone *cadaver*, and an altar-tomb to Rob. Aldwoth and his wife. *Sir J. Cadaman*, who was beheaded in the castle while Prince Rupert held the city, for killing an officer of the garrison, lies buried in the ch. ; and in the churchyard the unfortunate *Richard Savage*, the poet, who died in 1743 in the Newgate prison hard by, where he was confined for debt, and was buried at the cost of his gaoler. No stone marks his grave, but there is a memorial tablet to him on the S. aisle wall.

St. James, on rising ground, to the N. of the Horse Fair, is the nave of the ch. of the Priory, founded 1130 by Rob. E. of Gloucester, as a cell to Tewkesbury. Its founder devoted every tenth stone of those he imported from Normandy for the building of the great keep tower of the castle to this priory. The founder d. 1147, and was buried in the choir. An effigy, now placed against the S. wall, is said to be his, but certainly belongs to the 13th cent., and is more probably that of Rich. Grenville, buried here in 1240. The nave, which, having always been parochial, was preserved when the rest of the ch. was destroyed. The ch. is a good specimen of late Norm., the W. front, which has an intersecting arcade and a circular window above, being the most interesting part. The clerestory has externally a continuous pointed arcade. There is a fine plain Norm. arcade within of 5 bays. At the end of the N. aisle is a bust by Bailey to the Rev. T. T. Biddulph (d. 1838). To the S. of the altar are the kneeling effigies of Sir Charles Somerset (d. 1598), son of Hen. E. of Worcester, with his wife and daughter. Princess Eleanor, "the demoiselle of Bretagne," died here, and was buried in the priory, but her body was afterwards removed to Amesbury. In the old *Parsonage*, to the N.W. of the ch., is a good room with ceiling panelled

in stucco, and the arms of Ald. Whitson, founder of the Redmaids' School, on the chimney-piece.

St. John the Baptist, at the end of Broad St., stands on the line of the city wall, and St. John's Gate is carried under the tower which supports a low spire. On the front of the gate are the statues of Brennus and Belinus, the fabled founders of Bristol. The ch. was built by Walter Frampton, merchant (d. 1357), whose effigy in alderman's robes is within the ch. There is a brass to Thos. Rowley, merchant (d. 1478), and his wife. Beneath the ch. is a finely groined crypt worth inspection.

Temple Ch., in the street of the same name, near the rly. station, derives its name from having formerly belonged to a cell of the Knights Templars, the foundations of whose round ch. were discovered during the restoration. It is a large and stately Perp. building, with very light and lofty nave arcades, and wide aisles, and enormous coarse windows. It was well restored in 1873. The ch. is celebrated on account of its *leaning tower* ; this must have been once as fine as that of St. Stephen's, but its carved work is greatly decayed, and it has been robbed of its turrets and pinnacles. The singularity of this tower is mentioned as early as 1576 by Braun in his 'Theatrum Urbium.' The 16th-cent. geographer Abraham Ortelius asserts that he put a stone as large as a goose-egg into the chink that opened between the tower and the ch. wall when the bells were rung, and saw it crushed. In 1772 it was plumbed, and found to lean 3 ft. 9 in. from the perpendicular. The ch. contains a brass to a priest in cope, with a lady in a mantle on the reverse, and another to a civilian. Before the gateway of this ch., at the junction of Temple Street and the new Victoria Street, stands a leaden statue of Neptune, cast by a plumber of the parish, and

presented to it as a memorial of the destruction of the Spanish Armada. It now surmounts a fountain.

St. Philip and St. Jacob (Jacobus = James) is a large ch. of various dates, the tower at the E. end of S. aisle. Part of the tower, and some portion of the ch., are good E. E. The *font* is plain Norm., lined with lead. An armed demi-figure in the Kemys aisle is, without any authority, popularly identified with Duke Robert, eldest son of the Conqueror, imprisoned in Bristol Castle by his brother Hen. I.

St. Augustine, to the S.E. of the cathedral, is a large plain Perp. edifice with good tower, erected 1480 on the site of an earlier church, founded by the abbots of St. Augustine's for the use of the dwellers outside the Abbey precincts. The bosses of the chancel-roof bear the initials and device of Abbot John Nailheart and Abbot Elliot.

St. Michael was rebuilt 1774, but the 15th-cent. tower was preserved. Near it is an ancient *Almshouse*, founded by John Foster, merchant, "in honour of God and the 3 kings of Coleyn," in Hen. VII.'s reign. (See *ante*, p. 335.)

St. Thomas, at the junction of Thomas St., with the newly-formed Victoria St., has a body added in 1793 in the classical style, to an ancient tower, showing some E. E. ribs and bosses in the belfry. The interior was elaborately decorated in 1879, and contains some good specimens of modern and last century woodwork, and some enamelled altar taper-stands, "supposed to date from the 13th century." (*C. S. T.*)

St. Raphael, with almshouses for seamen annexed, is a costly modern building, erected by Canon Miles from Woodyer's designs.

Some very interesting remains of the *Dominican* or *Black Friars*, founded by Sir Maurice de Gaunt and Matthew de Gurney, 1229, are still to be found on the premises of

the Friends' Meeting House and Schools between Broad-Weir and Rosemary St. They consist of two parallel halls on the first floor, running E. and W., connected by a Dec. cloister (restored). That to the N., formerly the Friar's Dormitory, and subsequently the *Cutlers' Hall*, is the larger—86 ft. long by 23 broad—with a fine open collar-beam roof. At the W. end is a very lovely 2-light Dec. window with flowing tracery, and at the E. end a fine E. E. 3-light window, removed from the Bakers' Hall. The side windows are lancets, 2 at E. end of the N. range being cusped. The room below contains an E. E. window with central banded shaft. The smaller room to the S., known as the *Bakers' Hall*, formerly the lesser hall of the Friary, 44 ft. by 24 ft., has an open roof. In the cloister below are preserved an old stone lavatory, and some remains of rich tabernacle work.

Broadmead Baptist Chapel, the oldest place of Nonconformist worship in Bristol, founded 1640, had *Robert Hall* as its minister.

Rich as Bristol was formerly in specimens of mediæval domestic architecture, few examples now survive. The chief remains are the groined crypts or undercrofts on which as a rule our forefathers erected their houses, and which are so often erroneously considered as marking the site of some religious building. Of these, according to Mr. Godwin, 20 existed on one side of High St., and 15 on the other side. A fine example exists under 22, High St., and another under the "Castle Bank," at the corner of High St. and Wine St.

Colston's House, in Small St., was the most remarkable example of mediæval domestic architecture in Bristol. This was an important mansion, the official residence of the mayors of Bristol, from Henry II. to the Commonwealth, in which they entertained many royal and noble

guests. It contains the remains of a hall of 3 bays, 46 ft. by 37 ft., of the middle of the 12th centy., divided by semi-Norm. arcades into a centre and side-aisles. Behind the hall was "a grand range of Perp. buildings in 3 stories, each having a rich fireplace, that in the lowest room being of extraordinary size and magnificence. The windows are very large, square-headed, with rear arches and panelled jambs."—*J. H. P.* Much of this interesting house has been now swept away, and what remains, which is well worth examination, is incorporated in the modern *Assize Courts*.

Canynges' House, in Redcliffe St., now a bookseller's shop, retaining a 15th-cent. hall with a high-pitched roof, suffered great injury from a disastrous fire, Oct. 9. 1881.

St. Peter's Hospital, behind the ch. of the same name, originally the mansion of Thos. Norton, the Bristol alchemist, c. 1400, but much altered in 1612, is a rich specimen of half-timbered work, with carved gables, and projecting windows, deserving notice. The watergate, decorated with quaint carving, bears the date 1612. In 1695 it was used as a mint, and in 1697 it was converted into a hospital or poorhouse for the city. The *Court Room* is of unusual magnificence. The walls are panelled, the ceiling stuccoed with pendants; a large bay window to S. is filled with stained glass. The mantelpiece, Gothic below Jacobean above, is very rich. On the same floor is the *Chapel*.

The house at the corner of High St. and Wine St., formerly the banking house of Messrs. Stuckey and Co., now a shop, is a very curious wooden structure, with overhanging stories, said to have been framed in Holland, and brought over here.

In the Welsh Back, near St. Nicholas Ch., is a panelled Dec. doorway of singular richness belonging to *Spicer's Hall*. The *Old Swan Inn*, in Guardhouse Passage, is worth a visit.

Red Lodge, Park Row, long the residence of the learned *Dr. Prichard*, is a curious old mansion, with carved staircase and internal porch, and handsome chimney-pieces and ceilings.

The older streets till lately abounded in picturesque gabled houses with projecting stories, which are being rapidly swept away in modern alterations. The most remarkable are to be seen in Redcliffe St., Temple St., St. Mary-le-Port St., and the Pithay. The *Lamb Inn* in West St. retains its mediæval character.

The chief public buildings are grouped together in Broad Street and Corn Street.

The *Guildhall*, in Broad Street, is a modern Gothic building, Perp., by *Pope*, of Bristol. The six niches between the windows are filled with statues of Edward III. (who granted the corporation charter), Q. Victoria; Dunning and Sir Michael Foster, Records of Bristol; and of Colston and Whitson, its benefactors, all by *Thomas*, a Bristol sculptor. The building which runs back into Small St., includes the Assize Courts, Bankruptcy Court, and the Grand Jury Room; and preserves the very interesting remains of Colston's House (see *ante*).

The *Council-House*, at the corner of Corn Street, on the site of St. Ewen's Ch., is a correct but cold classical building with Ionic pillars, by Sir Rob. Smirke, opened in 1827. A statue of Justice with her scales, by Baily, surmounts the front. Within are the Mayor's Court, and offices for the various civic functionaries. The *Council Chamber* contains portraits of aldermen and benefactors to the city, including the Earl of Pembroke, by Vandyck, and James II. by Kneller.

On the opposite side of Corn Street is

The *Exchange*, a building of the Corinthian order, by *John Wood*, of Bath, 1743. It is but little used by

the merchants, who meet at the Commercial Rooms. The interior, which has an elegant colonnade, is used as a corn-market. On the pavement in front of the Exchange are 4 bronze tables on pedestals, removed from the old Tolsey, formerly used by the merchants for making their payments and signing their bonds, when they were accustomed to meet in the open street. Opposite is the

W. of England and S. Wales Bank, completed 1858. The façade is based on the Library of St. Mark at Venice. The lower story is Doric, with an arcade of 5 arches, columns, and decorations emblematical of the city, the county, and S. Wales. The upper is Ionic; in the 10 spandrels of the arches are life-size female figures emblematical of the elements and sources of wealth. At the corner of Small St., on the site of St. Werburgh's Ch., is the very ornate 4-storied mass of the *London & S.-W. Branch Bank*. Below this the

Commercial Rooms serve as an exchange, and contain reading-rooms. It was built 1811, and is surmounted by statues, which represent the city of Bristol, Commerce, and Navigation. It has a recessed Ionic portico, beneath which is a bas-relief by *Bubb*, representing Britannia, supported by Minerva and Neptune, receiving tribute from all parts of the world.

Below the Commercial Rooms is the *Royal Insurance Office*, with polished red granite columns, and the Ionic fronts of the *National Provincial Bank* and the *Wilts & Dorset Bank*, and on the other side of the street the very ornate fronts of the *Imperial* and *Globe Insurance Offices*, and the buildings of *Stuckey's Bank*.

In Small Street is the *Post Office*, with a good plain Italian front.

To the S. of Corn Street is *King*

Street, containing the *Merchant Venturers' Hall*, new fronted 1709, where George IV. was received when Prince of Wales, 1807; *Coopers' Hall*, with a good Corinthian front; some picturesque *Almshouses* worth inspection, and

The *City Library*, in King St., especially rich in Hutchinsonian Divinity. It contains the books of its founder, Dr. Tobie Matthews, Bp. of Durham, a native of Bristol, who left them, 1614, for the free use of the citizens. In the Library is a frame magnificently carved by *Grinling Gibbons*.

To the S. of King Street is *Queen Square*, a quiet spot, bordered with elms, in the centre of which stands a bronze equestrian statue of William III., by *Rysbräck*, for which the artist received 1800*l*. Here is the *Custom-house*, on the site of that destroyed by the mob, together with the *Mansion-house* and 2 sides of the sq., in the disgraceful riots of 1831.

S. of Queen Square and the Floating Harbour, and by the side of Bathurst Basin, is the *Bristol General Hospital*, one of the noblest buildings of the kind in the country, completed in 1857 at a cost of about 15,000*l*. The basement consists of warehouses, which produce a revenue for the institution.

Returning northwards and crossing the Swing Bridge, rt. are the handsome Corinthian portico of *St. Mary's Chapel*, on the Quay, built originally for the Irvingites, at a cost of 13,000*l*., and now occupied by the Roman Catholics, and the *Colston Hall*, opened 1867 (on the site of Colston's School, removed to Stapleton), standing in Trenchard St., above the Floating Dock, containing a fine room for concerts, public meetings, &c., accommodating 3000 persons. Turning l. the visitor will pass St. Augustine's Church and College Green (l.) and commence the steep ascent of *Park Street*, built 1775, to

The *Freemasons' Hall*, 1, formerly the *Bristol Institution* (now removed to the *Bristol Museum, post*), erected 1820 from Cockerell's designs, and deservedly admired for the classic purity of its style. The alto-relievo of the frieze is by Baily. Here Sir Humphry Davy commenced his chemical researches and delivered lectures in the theatre.

At the upper end of Park Street, the steep hill leading to Clifton, are, rt. the *Blind Asylum*, erected from designs by Rickman (the public singing of the pupils on Mondays at 3 is worth hearing), and the former *Bishops' College*, now the Volunteer Club House. Beyond this is the *Bristol Museum and Library*, a building in the Venetian-Gothic style, erected 1871, as a general centre for the various scientific associations of Bristol. It contains an admirable library, numbering over 50,000 vols., a museum rich in geological specimens, especially the fossils of the mountain limestone and the lias, and in objects of natural history. Here are also casts of the Elgin and Ægina marbles, and the original of Baily's *Eve at the Fountain*. Here also are preserved *Chatterton's will* and other papers connected with that ill-starred young author.

Behind the Museum in Tyndall's Park are the conspicuous and handsome Tudor buildings of the *Grammar School*, removed from the back of the Mayor's chapel, and the buildings of the *Bristol University College*.

On the other side of Park St., l., Berkeley Square affords access to Brandon Hill, with its wide and interesting prospects (see *post*). A little farther on, in the angle of the roads, stand the

Victoria Rooms, a handsome building with Corinthian portico, intended for public meetings, assemblies, concerts, &c. The great hall measures 117 ft. by 35 ft., and is 47 ft. high.

On the opposite side of the rd. are the *Queen's Hotel*, and the

Bristol Fine Arts Academy, erected 1858, a richly decorated modern structure, with marble statues of Flaxman and Reynolds on the front. Here are 3 pictures by *Hogarth*, formerly in Redcliffe Ch. On the ground-floor are the Schools of Science and Art.

Adjacent to this is a very ornate *Wesleyan Chapel*, built 1863; and not far distant, at the end of Park Place, l., the Roman Catholic *Church of the Holy Apostles*, begun by Bp. Baines on a stately classical plan, and temporarily completed and made available for service in the Gothic style. Attached to this is the *Convent of the Sisters of St. Catherine*.

From Park St., passing through Berkeley Sq., the visitor should not omit to visit *Brandon Hill*, so called from the hermitage of St. Brendan, a cell of St. James's Priory, tenanted in the middle ages by a recluse, sometimes male, sometimes female. There was also a Calvary. Irish mariners resorted to this chapel to offer their prayers, and return thanks for a safe voyage; the Spanish sailors doing the same at St. Vincent's Chapel, and those who sailed in the Bristol Channel, at that of St. Blaise. The Hill rises to a height of 250 ft., and is a bit of open common laid out as a park, surrounded by houses, but commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the country to the S., particularly of the *Tump* at Ashton Court, and of *Dundry Hill*. A footway to Clifton lies across it. It is a good example of "millstone grit," and bears the traces of a fort thrown up in the Civil Wars. On the summit are two guns from Sebastopol. At the foot of the W. slope stands

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, a large castellated building in the Tudor style, erected 1847. The charity was founded 1586, by John Carr, for the education of poor boys of this city and the manor of Congresbury.

More than 180 boys are here educated and maintained.

Bristol is rich in charitable institutions of this nature. We may notice the *Redmaids* in Denmark St., founded by Ald. Whitson in 1627; *Colston's School*, opened 1708, in St. Augustine's Place, and removed 1861 to the Bp.'s former palace at Stapleton, for boarding, educating, and clothing 100 sons of freemen; and *Müller's Orphan Houses*, on Ashley Down, about 1 m. (which should by all means be viewed on Tuesday or Wednesday), in which more than 2000 orphans are clothed, maintained, and educated without any endowment, simply by the gifts of Christian people (see *Handbook for Gloucestershire*).

In the *Baptist College*, Stoke's Croft (N. part of Bristol), is preserved an original miniature portrait of Oliver Cromwell, said to be the best portrait of him known. It is by *Cooper*, and was bequeathed to the College, 1784, by the Rev. Andrew Gifford, a Baptist minister. Here also is a curious collection of Hindoo idols, and the only perfect copy known of Tyndal's New Testament, which has been reproduced in facsimile by *Mr. Francis Fry*, of Cotham, the owner of a remarkable collection of early printed Bibles and Testaments.

Bristol can boast of many eminent children, either native or resident—*Ralph of Bristol*, Bp. of Kildare, 1223; *John Milverton*, Bp. elect of St. David's, imprisoned in the Castle of St. Angelo, Rome, for his liberal views; the two *Canynges*; *William Botoner*, otherwise Wyrester, the son of a glover on St. James's Back, 1415; *William Grocyn*, the friend of Erasmus, Greek Professor at Oxford, 1442; *Sebastian Cabot*, b. 1477 (son of John Cabot, a Venetian pilot), the discoverer of Newfoundland and Florida; *Dr. William Child*, the church musician, b. 1607; *Arch-*

bishop Tobie Matthew, of York, born on Bristol Bridge, 1546; *Alderman Whitson*, founder of the Redmaids' School; *Admiral Sir William Penn*, 1621; *Edward Colston*, founder of the Free School which bears his name, b. 1636; *Dr. J. Lewis*, historian of Thanet, 1675; *Chatterton*, born on Redcliffe Hill, 1752; *Hannah More*, b. 1745, whose sisters kept a school in 10, Park Street, and who d. 1833 at 4, Windsor Terrace, Clifton; the poet *Southey*, b. 1774; *Sir Francis Freeling*, b. 1764, so long the Secretary of the General Post Office; *Dr. W. B. Carpenter*, the physiologist; *Sir Thomas Lawrence*, the eminent portrait painter, was b. 1769 in Redcross St., his father soon after becoming landlord of the White Lion, moving thence to Devizes (see p. 74); *Baily* the sculptor; and *Müller*, *Ripingille*, and many eminent artists, such as *Danby*, *Poole*, *Pyne*, *Branwhite*, *West*, the *Fripps*, *Jackson*, &c.; *Lord Chancellor Westbury* and *Dr. Vaughan*, the late eminent Dissenting Minister and historical writer, were educated here. At Bristol also *Sir Humphry Davy* made his first appearance in the scientific world, under Beddoes, at the Pneumatic Institute for the Medical Inhalation of Gases, at the N.E. corner of Dowry Square. To the scientific men who have rendered Bristol illustrious may be added *Herapath* the chemist, and *Prichard* the ethnologist. *Robert Hall*, d. 1831, the famous preacher, was minister of Broadmead Baptist Chapel. On one occasion in his congregation were seen an Irish bishop, a dean, and 13 clergymen. Bristol is full of memories of *Southey* and *Coleridge*. Southey's father kept a linendraper's shop, No. 9, Wine Street. At 48, College Street, the 2 poets and the other pantisocratical dreamers, Lovell and Burnett, lodged when preparing for their voyage to America. Coleridge's first anti-Pittite lectures were delivered at the Corn Market in Wine

Street, and he went over from Bristol to Bath to preach in the Unitarian chapel, "in the morning on the Corn Laws, in the afternoon on the Hair-powder Tax." On leaving Clevedon in 1795, he removed to "pent-up rooms" on Redcliffe Hill, and, after a short sojourn at Stowey, returned to Bristol, 1796.

Edmund Burke sat for Bristol, and here made some of his most brilliant speeches. Here, after one of them, his colleague, Mr. Cruger, a Bristol merchant, when his turn came to make an address, as the story goes, simply added, "I say ditto to Mr. Burke."

Between the years 1804-9 the Avon was dammed back as far as Cumberland Basin at the Hotwells, and, together with the Frome, converted into a magnificent *Floating Harbour* at an expense exceeding 600,000*l.* A new channel was cut for the Avon, commencing above the city and terminating at Rownham Ferry. *Bathurst Basin* affords accommodation for the smaller steamers and coasting vessels, while *Cumberland Basin*, near the Hotwells, opens immediately on the tidal Avon, and receives the larger vessels and steamers. The *Welsh Back*, as the rt. bank of the upper portion of the Float is called, is principally occupied by Severn fishing smacks, and Irish provision brigs. The size of the vessels increases as we descend, and at the *Grove*, S. of Queen's Square, West or East Indiamen and American ships are ranged side by side, forming a very forest of masts. Farther down the *Sea Banks* accommodate timber ships.

The Great Western steam-ship, which was the first to cross the Atlantic in 1838, was built in Bristol, as was the still larger iron ship, the Great Britain.

Bristol gives the title of marquis to the family of Hervey (*created*

1826). It was first bestowed on the Digbys by James I.

CLIFTON. (*Inns*: Clifton Down Hotel; Queen's; St. Vincent's Rocks.)

The long and steep ascent of Park Street leads from College Green to Clifton, once a distinct village, now a suburb of Bristol. It is the "west end" of the city, where its merchants dwell, far removed from the smoke and din. It is also much frequented as a health resort, and is remarkable for the beauty of its villas, and the breadth of its elm-shaded roads. Among a labyrinth of streets, squares, and crescents, ranged one over the other along the slopes, the most elevated and handsomest of all is *York Crescent*, above which, at the top of the hill, are the open downs, and *St. Vincent's Rocks*, upon the verge of the

Gorge of the Avon, where "the river runs between rocks and a hanging wood; a scene truly magnificent, and wanting nothing but clearer water; the stream consists of liquid mud, and the gutter-like bed is hideous except when the tide is full, for it rises here not less than 30 ft."

—*Southey*.

The Avon is here navigable for large vessels and steamers approaching the port of Bristol. It is indeed a most striking view to look across this chasm of about 600 ft. span, which separates Somersetshire from Gloucestershire, upon the river winding at a depth of nearly 250 ft. below, upon the sails of ships and the funnels of steamers.

St. Vincent's Rocks are composed of the mountain limestone which abounds in fossil remains, and in its upper beds, where it mingles with the millstone grit, includes also crystals of quartz, which are sold under the name of *Bristol Diamonds*. Quarries have been formed in these cliffs, so as to diminish their beauty, and cause Southey to accuse the Bristolians of "selling the sublime and

beautiful by the boatload." High up on the bold precipice (220 ft. above high-water mark) is a cavern called the *Giant Ghyst's Hole*, described by W. Wyrcestre under the name of "Fox Hole," "valde periculosus locus." The chapel and hermitage of St. Vincent stood about the middle of the high rock. It may be visited from the *Observatory*, by a flight of steps cut through the solid rock. The observatory contains some good telescopes, and other optical instruments, and a very large camera obscura. It stands 285 ft. above high-water mark, in the centre of a British camp occupying the projecting headland, protected by two ditches and ramparts, and including a square Roman camp. There are 2 other camps on the other side of the Avon, which was here crossed at low water by a ford on a natural bed of rock—*Bower Walls* (Burgh Walls, recently destroyed), of 7 acres, with 3 ramparts and ditches, and originally a wall of loose stones; and *Stoke Leigh Camp*, of 8 acres, each cutting off a jutting crag; divided by the lovely wooded ravine known as *Nightingale Valley* in *Leigh Woods*. A British trackway, afterwards utilised by the Romans, crossed the Avon by a rocky ford at this point, and pursued its course up the valley, and along Leigh Down to Cadbury Camp, and so westwards.

Very near the observatory the gorge of the Avon is spanned by the graceful curve of the *Suspension Bridge*, affording a long needed and convenient communication between the Gloucestershire and Somersetshire banks, without the necessity of descending to Rownham Ferry and climbing again.

The plan of a bridge was devised by Alderman Vick, of Bristol, who died in 1753. He left 1000*l.*, with directions that it should be put out at interest until it reached 10,000*l.*, which he conceived would be sufficient for the purpose. The money

had reached 8000*l.* in 1830, when an Act of Parliament was obtained, additional capital raised, and at last Mr. Brunel commenced the bridge. The funds, however, proved wholly inadequate, and the works remained incomplete for a period of 30 years. At length they were resumed in 1861, and the bridge, which is mainly constructed from the chains of Hungerford Bridge, was formally opened in Sept. 1864, on occasion of the visit of the British Association. The chains are carried over a tower of 80 ft. high, on each bank, and support a carriage way of 20 ft., and 2 footways of 5 ft. 6 in. each. The distance between the piers is 702 ft., the height from the water 245 ft., and the weight of the whole structure is 1500 tons. The view from the bridge is singularly beautiful.

Clifton and Durdham Downs stretch for about 1 m. westward. The broad flat expanse of turf, surrounded with villas and intersected with elm-shadowed roads, is charmingly broken towards the Avon with rocky dells, clothed with ferns and gorse and aged weather-beaten thorns. There is a pretty *Zoological Garden* on Durdham Down, with usually a good collection of animals, especially of lions and tigers, a few minutes' walk from the Mall.

Clifton *Ch.* was re-built in 1819, in what was then thought to be Gothic. The lofty pinnacles of its tower were taken down about 30 years since. The E. window contains a copy of Raphael's Transfiguration in stained glass.

Clifton possesses several more modern churches, of various degrees of merit. *Christ Church* has a lofty and graceful spire. *All Saints*, still wanting its tower, is a fine example of the late Mr. Street's genius, with a grand but simple nave, 62 ft. high, and lofty clerestory filled with stained glass by Hardman. The sculptured reredos represents saints offering

themselves and their gifts to Christ. *St. Paul's*, rebuilt in 1868, after being burnt down, has a bas-relief over the entrance door of "St. Paul preaching," worthy of notice. The chapels of the various religious denominations are mostly of some architectural pretensions, and several have towers and spires.

Clifton College, founded 1862, and receiving a royal charter 1877, has speedily secured a leading position among our public schools. It forms a picturesque quadrangle of Gothic buildings, with a chapel added in 1862 by the munificence of the widow of Canon Guthrie, and a tower in commemoration of the same benefactor to the College.

An easy zigzag road and winding paths lead from the heights of Clifton Down to the water-side and the defunct

Hotwells, where formerly stood a Grecian building, erected over the medicinal spring, but demolished for the widening of the river; the spring was known to William Wyrcestre in 1480, and was used as far back as 1632. It suddenly sprang into notoriety in 1670, through the marvellous cure of a certain Mr. Gagg, baker, of Castle Street, who was led to make trial of the water by a dream. Until 1695 the well was only accessible at low water, but then it was protected by a wall, and pumps to raise the water were erected. Smollet's *Humphrey Clinker* gives an amusing picture of fashionable life at Bristol Spa in the last century.

At the extremity of the hill, some way down the Avon, and high above its waters, is a picturesque tower, incorporated in a modern villa, erected 1693, and ungraciously known as "*Cook's Folly*." It has been so called from the tradition told under various forms in so many different places, that a person of the name of Cook was here shut up to escape the fulfilment of a dream which indicated death from a serpent. A viper

entered with faggots for the fire, and so inflicted the destined death-wound. A good view of the scenery is obtained at the brink of the precipice. The *Pitch and Pay Gate* long preserved the memory of the plague year, when the country folks brought their goods to this spot and pitched them on a large stone, when the money was afterwards placed by the purchaser in a basin of vinegar.

(a.) Across Durdham Down is *Stoke Bishop*, so called from having belonged to Geoffrey Bp. of Coutances, where is a *Ch.* with a tall spire and highly decorated interior (Norton, arch.), and Elizabethan manor-house, built by Sir Rob. Cann in 1669. Up the hill among the trees to l. is a fallen cromlech. A pleasant walk along Stoke Lane leads by *Stoke Abbey Farm*, a gabled Jacobean house, across fields to Westbury on Trym, 1 m.

Westbury Ch. deserves notice. It is an E. E. building, with later additions. It was "elegantly enlarged" by Alcock, afterwards Bp. of Ely, founder of Jesus Coll. Cambridge, while occupying the see of Worcester, 1476-1486. The N. aisle retains a W. triplet and a piscina and sedilia of the original work. The N. arcade is earlier than the S. The chancel terminates in a broad Perp. apse, and there is a large N. chapel, with a very light and lofty Perp. arcade. The reredos is very elaborate, and has been richly coloured and ornamented with a bas-relief of the Last Supper. On the N. of the sacrarium is the effigy of Carpenter, Bp. of Worcester, d. 1476, restored at the expense of Oriel College, of which he had been provost.

Below the ch. an ivy-clad square tower marks the site of the *College*, of which Canynges, the builder of St. Mary Redcliffe, was dean, and Wycliffe prebendary. It succeeds a monastery which existed here as early as 804, and in 964 received the

first colony of Benedictine monks from Fleury, and may therefore be probably regarded as the original seat of the Benedictine system in England. In the Civil Wars the college was set on fire by Prince Rupert, lest it should become a Parliamentary garrison, and annoy Bristol.

Southey, in 1798, resided for 12 months at Westbury, where he wrote his 'Madoc,' and cultivated his acquaintance with Davy and his bag of nitrous oxide. "We hesitated," he writes, "between the appropriate names of Rat Hall, Mouse Mansion, Vermin Villa, Cockroach Castle, Cobweb Cottage, and Spider Lodge; but as we routed out the spiders, brushed away the cobwebs, stopped the rat holes, and found no cockroaches, we bethought us of the animals without, and dubbed it Marten Hall." It had been an alehouse; "so we have had application to sell beer, and buy a stock of tobacco pipes."

A short distance W. of Westbury, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Bristol, is *Blaise Castle*, formerly the seat of J. S. Harford, Esq., the biographer of M. Angelo and Bp. Burgess, and friend of Wilberforce. The house stands above the gorge of the Trym, a wooded limestone ravine of singular beauty. The house is not shown; the grounds on Thursdays only, by previous application in writing. *Blaise Castle* contains a fine collection of pictures, principally of the time of Michael Angelo and Raphael, arranged with great taste in a gallery opening to a conservatory. Among them are the following works:—*Seb. del Piombo*, the Pietà, a circular picture, painted on black marble. From the Barberini Palace. 2. The Holy Family, "the largest and most admirable example I have seen."—*Waagen*. *M. Venusti*, a copy of the Christ bound, by Seb. del Piombo;—*D. da Volterra*, the Entombment, "a fine and rich composition."—*Correggio*, excellent copies by his

scholars of the Christ on the Mount of Olives, and the Virgin and Child;—*Parmigiano*, the marriage of St. Catherine, "worthy of his great model, Correggio."—*Waagen*. 2. The Virgin and Child adored by SS. Margaret, Augustin, and Jerome, a repetition of the altar-picture in the gallery of Bologna;—*Paul Veronese*, the Dead Christ on the lap of the Virgin;—*L. Carracci*, a copy of Correggio's St. Jerome, in the Gallery at Parma;—*Ann. Carracci*, a Riposo;—*Guido Reni*, the Assumption, of the same period as the Murder of the Innocents in the Gallery at Bologna—"an admirable picture." 2. The Crucifixion. 3. An Ecce Homo. *Guercino*, a Youth holding up a bunch of Grapes. 2. Diana. *Lanfranco*, Belisarius;—*Carlo Dolce*, Christ and the Woman of Samaria—"livelier in expression and action than usual." *G. Poussin*, a Landscape;—*Salvator Rosa*, 2 large poetical Landscapes; and 3 smaller Landscapes, one a Sea-shore Scene, of great transparency;—*Vandyck*, a half-length Portrait of a Lady armed as Minerva;—*Hobbema*, a large Landscape;—*J. Vernet*, View of a Sea-coast; 2. a Sea-piece, of his later time;—*Raphael*, the Spasimo, of which the original is in the Madrid Gallery; "no copy, but an independent work, in which, I cannot doubt, Raphael had a hand."—*W*.

Drawing-room.—*Guido Reni*, St. Veronica, "of great power of colouring;"—*Tiarini*, the Assumption;—*Schidone*, St. John the Evangelist;—*N. Poussin*, a Landscape, highly poetic and of fresh colour;—*Il Cavaliere d'Arpino*, Christ on the Mount of Olives;—*C. Procaccini*, the Tribute-money;—*G. Poussin*, a Storm; 2. a Landscape;—*Salvator Rosa*, a Sea-piece, in the style of the large sea-pieces by this master in the Pitti Palace;—*Carlo Dolce*, an Ecce Homo. 2. The Virgin, in profile.

In the entrance hall are casts of the Apollo Belvidere and Versailles

Diana, and in the conservatory, of some of the finest heads of the Antinous.

Dining-room.—*Lawrence*, Portrait of Mrs. Harford.

The *park* of Blaise is remarkable for the beautiful undulations of the ground, which are thickly covered by the arbutus and other evergreens, and diversified by rocks. A singular group of limestone rocks is known as *Giant Goram's Chair*, where, according to the tradition, he was surprised by a nap, while his rival St. Vincent settled the dispute as to the course of the Avon by cleaving the present ravine through which the river flows. The modern triangular castellated prospect house, on the summit of Blaise Hill (which takes its name from a hermitage of St. Blaise, once existing there), was built in 1768 by the then owner of the estate, Mr. Thomas Farr. The hill is occupied by a British camp, defended by 3 ramparts and 2 ditches, now turned into pleasure grounds, and covered with shrubs and trees.

Mr. Harford's cottages—designed by Nash 1810, irregularly placed round a sloping lawn, form "the beau-ideal of a village—consist of a group of houses of different forms, styles, and materials, stone, brick, wood, &c., roofed with thatch, tiles, or slate, surrounded with a variety of trees, and enwreathed with clematis, rose, honeysuckle, or vine. The dwellings have separate gardens, and a common fountain, in the centre of the green, shadowed by old trees. The inhabitants are all poor families, settled here by the bounty of the proprietor."—*Prince Pückler Muskau*. They may be seen any week day between 12 and 5.

Henbury Ch., a very fine E. E. building, with singularly lofty nave arcades, recently the proportions of Gloucester and Tewkesbury, well restored by Street. The E. E. chancel has a remarkable deflection to

the N. The stunted clerestory lights of the nave, sunk between every other pair of arches, deserve notice, as does the E. E. piscina in the chancel. The walls are lined with costly monuments, some of which deserve notice. That to Mr. Harford Battersby, on the N. wall, has an epitaph by Mrs. Hannah More. Under the tower are those of the Southwell family, of Kingsweston, from Sir Robert Southwell (d. 1702), envoy extraordinary to many foreign courts, and Secretary of State for Ireland.

A charming walk leads from Blaise Castle to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, along Kingsweston Hill, a narrow ridge about 1 m. in length, defended by an earthwork, consisting of a bank and ditch, towards its Blaise Castle extremity. The views on both sides are delightful. If you prefer it, you may make a separate excursion to *Kingsweston* and *Penpold Point*, a pleasant walk of 4 m. Or you may go down the river bank and turn inland where the path ends.

Kingsweston, once the seat of Lord de Clifford, and now of Mrs. Miles, is a plain but large house, 3 stories high, by Vanbrugh, beautifully situated on the Avon, 3 m. above its junction with the Severn. Of both rivers the grounds command delightful views, as well as of the Bristol Channel and the hills of Glamorgan-shire. *Penpold Point*, almost within the park, commands a magnificent view of the Severn and its banks for 20 or 30 miles, bounded by the highlands of Monmouthshire and Wales, and the King's Road immediately below, where the Avon joins the Severn. Below Kingsweston is the pretty retired village of *Shirehampton*. A rly. from the Hotwells, Clifton, runs along the rt. bank of the Avon past the stations of *Sea Mills*, the supposed site of the Roman station *Abona*, where was once a large floating dock, and *Shirehampton*, to the pier and docks at *Avon Mouth*, 5½ m.,

where a large hotel has been built, surrounded with ornamental pleasure grounds.

(b.) To the *Tump* at Ashton Court, an eminence commanding a fine view of Bristol, and of the vale in which it lies. You should go E. along the ridge for a pretty glimpse of the sea between the valley sides, and of Worle Hill and the Steep Holme in the opening. There is another path from Rownham Ferry by Ashton Court, seat of Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart., to the conspicuous ch. tower on *Dundry Hill*.

(c.) To *Leigh Court*, seat of Sir P. J. W. Miles, Bart., well known for its gallery of pictures. [It is about 3 m. from Bristol, on the l. bank of the Avon, and is shown to the public on Thursdays. Application for tickets of admission must be made at the Old Bank, Bristol.] Charles II. was concealed in the old court-house, personating a servant keeping his room under plea of illness. The former house was once occupied by Gordon, the translator of Tacitus. The present stately mansion was erected from designs by Hopper, c. 1814.

"Passing through an extensive park, you come to the beautiful grounds, which are kept in the finest order, and to the splendid mansion, built with great taste in the Italian style. Though my expectations of this collection had been raised very high, they were far exceeded. I found in these apartments a series of capital works of the most eminent Italian, Flemish, Spanish, and French masters, which would grace the palace of any monarch."—*Waagen*.

"Dining-room. — *Ann. Carracci*, John the Baptist in the Wilderness; half the size of life. A noble and graceful figure and warmly coloured; — *Velasquez*, a female saint in ecstasy, called a *Velasquez*; but I am inclined to attribute it to some excellent

Spanish painter unknown to me; — *And. del Sarto*, the Virgin with the Child, and St. John. Of extraordinary effect, from the figures being above the size of life, and of very powerful colouring, though it cannot be classed among the graceful and attractive works of the master; — *Murillo*, the Martyrdom of St. Andrew; figures about quarter the size of life. The whole composition is very discreetly treated, the expression of the saint noble, the colouring singularly tender and clear, and the execution uncommonly careful; — *Gaspar Poussin*, a very large Landscape, almost square, from the Colonna Palace. In the most elevated taste of the master, and in admirable harmony with the fine figure, by Nicholas Poussin, of Elijah, to whom an Angel is pointing out Jehovah passing over in the clouds. This picture is a *chef-d'œuvre* of this great master, nay, a *chef-d'œuvre* of landscape painting; — *Murillo*, the Holy Family, with Angels, in a Landscape; figures almost the size of life. Of the decidedly naturalistic epoch of the master; at the same time the expression is nobler than in most of his pictures of this period; — *Claude*, the effect of the morning sun upon the sea; in the foreground fishermen drawing their net; — *Ann. Carracci*, Diana and Actæon; figures about half the size of life; in a fine landscape, with an open view of the sea. The horns of Actæon, who is escaping, are beginning to shoot; — *Guido Cagnacci*, Susanna and the Elders; half-length figures, the size of life. A very choice picture, with great power of colouring, and particularly careful; — *Nic. Poussin*, the Plague at Athens, according to the description of Thucydides. A large, very rich masterpiece of Poussin, in which we are reconciled by his skill to the horrors of the subject. Very few pictures of Poussin are of such masterly completion in all their parts, and so well understood

in the very difficult foreshortening : the heads, at the same time, are much more varied and more true to nature than usual.—On the wall between the windows I remarked a graceful female figure by *Romanelli* ; a small Landscape with Banditti, by *Salvator Rosa* ; and Youths looking at a sleeping Nymph, by *Domenichino*.

“Saloon.—*Claude*, 1. A mountainous, richly wooded Landscape, with rich melting middle distances ; in every respect one of the finest pictures that ever came from the hand of this great master. It is of that time when *Claude* had attained the highest perfection in general keeping, without sacrificing to it, as he afterwards did, the vigorous execution, the local colours, and the individuality of the details. 2. The companion : also an exquisite composition, though much paler, and more monotonous in the colour. The harmony of the effect also is disturbed by the stiff, lengthy figure of *Æneas*, who, with his companions, is landing in Italy. Painted 1675, in his 75th year. From the Altieri palace, Rome. Mr. Beckford gave 10,000*l.* for the pair, with 4 other cabinet pictures ;—*Rubens*, the Woman taken in Adultery. A composition of five principal and seven subordinate figures ; rather above the size of life. Entirely painted by *Rubens*’ own hand, perhaps of a not much later date than the celebrated Descent from the Cross at Antwerp. The flesh is of a very full tone ; the careful execution admirably melting. This celebrated picture, which is in an extraordinary state of preservation, is said to have been painted for the family of Van Knyf at Antwerp. At the sale of Mr. Henry Hope’s collection, in the year 1816, it was sold for 2000*l.* ;—*Domenichino*, St. John the Evangelist in a vision, supported by two angels ; full-length figures, the size of life. Formerly in the Giustiniani Gallery :

one of the most beautiful works of this master. It is in an excellent state of preservation ;—*Titian*, Venus and Adonis, a good school copy of the celebrated picture in the Museum at Madrid ;—*Rubens*, the Virgin supporting the infant Christ standing on her lap, to whom St. John stretches out his arms. St. Francis of Assisi worshipping, Elisabeth and Joseph. Very pleasing in the expression ; warm, but sober in the colouring, and carefully finished ;—*L. da Vinci*, Christ giving the Benediction. Of a grave, dignified character, but deficient in expression, though it has much merit. It is of a later period than Leonardo.

“Drawing-room.—*Raphael*, 1. Christ bearing his Cross. A long narrow picture, formerly the centre-piece of the Predella to the altarpiece which Raphael painted for the nuns of St. Antonio at Perugia (painted in 1505). The group of the mourning women is peculiarly beautiful in the motives, and striking in the expressions. 2. The Virgin lifting the veil from the Child, which has just awaked, and with much animation stretches out its arms to her. Half-length figures, the size of life. The Child is of the greatest beauty, and has all the peculiarities of Raphael—the greatest vivacity, the delicately felt drawing, and the reddish extremities. The Virgin has, more than any other of Raphael’s, the appearance of a portrait ; yet the features are very delicate. On panel.—*Claude*, a Landscape, with a temple on rt. and hills in the foreground. The morning light is very harmoniously carried out in a delicate silvery tone. From the old Hope collection :—The Virgin and Child, called a *Fra Bartolomeo*, is not delicate enough for him, but is by the hand of one of his imitators ;—*Guido Reni*, Cleopatra ; the original of innumerable repetitions. Extremely pleasing in beauty of feature, expression, clearness of colouring,

and melting execution;—*Velasquez*, Philip IV., King of Spain, on horseback; a small, very excellent picture, in the bright, clear, and yet full tone peculiar to him; soft and freely executed with a flowing brush;—*Marcello Venusti*. To this scholar of Mich. Angelo I am inclined to attribute the well-known composition of the Crucifixion, with the Virgin and St. John at the sides. The expression is intense, the execution well understood, and of admirable body;—*Gerard Douw*, the Doctor; a medical man looking at a bottle, a woman watching him. The head very expressive; the details rich, and approaching his master, Rembrandt, in warmth of colour;—*Paul Potter*, three Cows in a Meadow. Admirable in composition, in warm and luminous colouring, and in the spirited treatment;—*Murillo*, the Virgin with the sleeping Child and Joseph. Realistic in the characters, and carefully executed. St. Francis in an ecstasy, supported by an angel, here called a *Correggio*; but I believe it to be a beautiful and careful picture in the manner of Correggio, by *Ann. Carracci*, to whom an early repetition of the same is here erroneously ascribed;—*Raphael*, Pope Julius II. I would not mention this picture, of which there are such numerous repetitions, were it not different from all that I have seen, and extremely excellent. The treatment is masterly; on panel;—*Carlo Dolce*, the Virgin, with the blue mantle over her head, so often met with, here taken in profile, and of great clearness and delicacy.

“Library.—*Murillo*, St. John the Evangelist in ecstasy, which is admirably expressed in the realistic head. The execution masterly, in a silvery tone. A John the Baptist, whole-length figure, the size of life, which is here given to *Correggio*, I believe to be a picture by *Parmigiano*.

“Music-room.—*G. Poussin*, two views of Tivoli, large upright pic-

tures, which are among his finest works, for the happily chosen points of view, the clearness and completion of all the parts. A smaller, also very beautiful landscape;—*Holbein*, a half-length undraped figure, called, in defiance of all probability, William Tell; most carefully modelled from Nature, in a true, warm, and powerful tone, and in very decided forms; the hand particularly admirable;—*Parmigiano*, a small version of the larger picture in the National Gallery; careful and in a warm tone;—*Scarsellino da Ferrara*. This master, in my opinion, painted the Entry of Christ into Jerusalem, which here bears the name of *Paul Veronese*;—*Raphael Mengs*, the Virgin and Child enthroned, surrounded by Angels; feeble in character, but of a delicate harmony;—*G. Bellini*, the Adoration of the Kings, a predella of very pure conception, and peculiar composition. Joseph, who is seated near the Virgin, appears of more importance than usual. The kings, remaining at a little distance, respectfully offer their gifts. Delicately executed, with clear yellowish flesh tones;—*Stothard*, the Pilgrimage to Canterbury; the original picture and finest example by him of this often-repeated subject. The colouring warm and transparent, the execution careful;—*G. Poussin*, a Landscape, with figures in the foreground, and water in the middle distance. Nobly conceived, and of admirable keeping in the silvery tones;—*G. Mazzuola*. To this master I am inclined to attribute an allegorical representation, with the Virgin borne by angels above, and below Vice bound; here called a *Parmigiano*;—*Hogarth*, a Female Portrait; animatedly conceived, and coloured in a light clear tone;—*Claude*, a Harbour; of great delicacy and transparency in keeping and colour;—*J. Vernet*, a Sea-piece, with the morning mist; of great truth.

“Little Dining-room.—*Rubens*, the

Conversion of St. Paul, in figures as large as life. The spirited, long-maned horse of the saint has fallen on its knee, and Paul, thrown over its head, lies on the ground with his eyes closed. Terror is most strikingly expressed in his noble, pale features. In the dazzling beam of light which falls on him from heaven our Lord appears. Rubens appears here not only with his wonted animation, but with an unusual sobriety of form and colour, which latter is, however, of surprising depth, force, and clearness, and with a sustained and careful execution. In 1806 this picture was sold for 4000 guineas;—*Lairesse*, Jupiter and Antiope; a good picture, in which he has endeavoured to imitate Titian;—*C. Maratti*, a Holy Family; a pretty picture, warmly coloured for him;—*Hogarth*, the Shrimp Girl; animatedly conceived, and sketched with the utmost freedom. A picture of the Three Graces, here attributed to *Titian*, appears to me rather the work of *Niccolo dell' Abbate*."—*Waagen*.

[*Portishead*, a pretty watering-place and harbour in the Bristol Channel, is distant from Bristol by Rly. $11\frac{1}{2}$ m. Leaving the general station, the Portishead line branches off to the N., with a station at *Clifton Bridge* ($3\frac{1}{2}$ m.), thence under Leigh Woods, following the windings of the River Avon by *Pill* ($7\frac{1}{2}$ m.), a quaint, crowded, and not over-clean pilot-village, and *Portbury* ($9\frac{1}{2}$ m.), an old Roman station, where the church, remains of priory, &c., should be seen.

Portishead is growing in favour with visitors seeking health or pleasure; the site is picturesque, the temperature equable, the air pure and invigorating. There is a good hotel near the pier; baths, lodging-houses, &c. Delightful excursions may be made in the neighbourhood. The harbour is sheltered by a densely-wooded hill, rising

abruptly out of the sea, commanding views of the Channel from the N. Devon Foreland, the mountain-coast of Wales, King Road, and the River Severn to and beyond Wynd Cliff and Aust. In the deep-water entrance to the estuary a pier has been constructed, which is used by the Irish and Ilfracombe steamers, and sometimes by the Welsh boats to avoid the tidal delays of the Avon. An extensive dock has recently been formed at great cost, in which vessels of large size may load and unload without ascending the Avon. On the N.W. point of this hill-promontory is a small fort. The Parliamentary army took it from the Royalists in 1645. Early in the present century it was dismantled and sold; but has recently been repurchased by the Crown, repaired, and armed with a battery of four guns. Opposite is a small islet known as the *Denny*, and beyond are the great sand-banks called *Welsh Grounds*. The rise and fall of the tide is said to be greater here than at any point in the Old World, being as much as 42 ft. at springs. A strong westerly wind will often cause it to rise many feet higher.

Modern villas stud the hill-slopes overlooking the sea. The old village occupies the long sheltered valley on the S.; the *Ch.* is Perp., except some Dec. arches and windows; the tower lofty and good. A new aisle has been recently added. A Norm. font, well preserved, and the old stone-cross near the S. porch, deserve notice. The *Court House* shows interesting specimens of 16th-cent. domestic architecture.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Portishead, at the foot of Naish Hill, is the little village of

Clapton-in-Gordano. "Its pleasing situation, the small ch. on a high bank amongst luxuriant foliage, with the remains of the manor-house close by, give a singular charm to the place." The *Court House* is (or was) very curious; the

chief external feature was a square tower, added c. 1440; the walls of house, c. 1310; the hall was destroyed, but a double oak door, communicating with the buttery, &c., remained till lately, and was a most interesting fragment of an earlier house, c. 1210—"probably the most remarkable piece of early wooden domestic screenwork in existence."—*J. H. P.* (It now stands in the garden.) The *Ch.* deserves notice for its singular and irregular outline, and its architectural peculiarities. It has work of all dates, Norm., E. E., Dec., and Perp. The plain square tower, with a pierced battlement, is of the 13th cent. The bench ends are, perhaps, some of the earliest wooden seats in England. The reredos is ornamented with two E. E. shafts, supporting candlesticks of an early date.]

We will now proceed from Bristol on our main route westwards by the Bristol and Exeter Rly. The line traverses the *Bedminster Coalfield*, commanding a fine view rt. of Clifton, and the gorge of the Avon with the elegant curve of the Suspension Bridge. Further on we have on our l. the high ridge of *Dundry Hill*, crowned with its lofty tower, and rt. *Ashton Court* and *Leigh Down*.

Ashton Court (Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart.) was brought prominently before the public some years ago by an impudent attempt to gain possession of it on the part of an impostor, in 1853, calling himself "Sir Richard Smyth," who ended his days in prison. The Court, situated on a gentle eminence, and backed by a well-wooded park, enclosed and planted by Thomas de Lyons, 1391, presents an extensive front, 150 ft. in length, erected by Inigo Jones in 1634; but at the back of the mansion still remain the ancient gateway and the windows, battlements, and buttresses of the old Court.

In the 15th centy. it was the re-

sidence of Sir Richard Choke, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, who died 1483, and is buried in Ashton Church.

The old gallery in the Court is full of interesting family portraits, some of them of great merit—one particularly, of Helena Snachenberg, a Swedish lady, Marchioness Dowager of Northampton, Maid of Honour to Queen Elizabeth, and mother of Elizabeth, wife of Sir Hugh Smyth, who, with her 2nd husband, Sir Thomas Gorges, lies buried under a splendid monument in Salisbury Cathedral. (See *ante*, Rte. 8.)

Long Ashton Church, founded by Thomas de Lyons, c. 1390, contains many fine monuments to the Smyths of Ashton Court, the slab of its founder's destroyed altar-tomb, and an oak screen of good workmanship.

124 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. l., *Flax Bourton Ch.*, recently enlarged and restored, has a Norman door and chancel arch, and a sancte bell-cot. 1 m. S., 5 m. from Bristol, is *Barrow Gurney*. The churchyard cross has been restored as a memorial of her son, by Mrs. Frankland Hood. *Barrow Court*, J. H. Blagrove, Esq., a very fine Elizabethan house, was built on the site of a nunnery, and has been for many generations the seat of the Gore family.

Beyond it is *Dial Quarry*, in the inferior oolite. The road to Axbridge here ascends *Broadfield Down*, and enters a hilly country, rich in beauty. l. are *Hartcliff Rocks*; rt. the *Goblin Combe* and *Hill Scars*; and, at a distance of 2 m., the romantic valley of *Brockley Combe*. On the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down is one of the 3 igneous vents mentioned by Dr. Buckland as occurring in this county. The 2nd is at the Uphill cutting, on the Mendips; the 3rd at Hestercombe, on the Quantocks.

126 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Nailsea Stat.*, where *Cadbury Camp* is about 2 m. to the rt. The small Perp. *Ch.* of Nailsea has a

stone pulpit, with steps in a recess in the wall.

At *Nailsea Court*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. down the line, a fine old manor-house (once the seat of the Bythemores, and afterwards of the Percevals the ancestors of the Earl of Egmont), was born, 1551, Richard Perceval, who first discovered the designs of Spain against England previous to the sailing of the Spanish Armada. At the extremity of Nailsea parish are extensive glassworks, belonging to Mr. S. Bowen.

Chelvey Church, 1 m. S.W., has a Norm. door, and 13th-cent. windows, and contains memorials of the families of Aish and Tynte, including an incised slab of the 13th centy.

To the S. of Chelvey Church is a plain Cross, surmounted by a ball. A little further down the line are remains of the manor-house of *Chelvey Court*, temp. James I., now a farm-house, but still retaining many of the old panelled chambers, one of which has a hiding-room at the back of the fireplace. On the porch are the arms of Tynte, the family who became owners of the house and manor about 1600.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Nailsea Station is *Backwell Church*, standing on a picturesque site among rocky heights and deep glens. The tower is fine and tall, of two dates, the upper part of which was, according to local tradition, rebuilt after a storm in 1603. It contains good canopied sedilia, and a rich tomb to one of the Rodney family, with an effigy in armour, and a fine reredos added by the M. of Bath.

2 m. S.W. of the Nailsea Station, about 4 m. from that at Yatton, 9 m. from Bristol, is

Brockley Combe, a wooded and rocky hollow in the Dundry line of hills. This tract abounds in picturesque beauty; its chief characteristics are rocky eminences, richly clothed with wood and intersected with precipitous ravines. Brockley Combe is more than a mile long, and

[Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

the rocks are in some places 300 ft. high. *Brockley Church* stands very prettily. It contains a richly carved reredos and pulpit. Adjoining it is *Brockley Court*, a seat of the family of Pigott. Towards the close of day the valley forms a vista to the setting sun, which in its descent illuminates the distant sea. Brockley was a favourite spot with the poet Coleridge, who in one of his rambles from Clevedon composed the following lines:—

“ With many a pause and oft reverted eye

I climb the Coomb's ascent: sweet songsters near

Warble in shade their wild-wood melody:

Far off the unvarying cuckoo soothes my ear:

Up scour the startling stragglers of the flock

That on green plots or precipices browse:

From the deep fissures of the naked rock

The yew-tree bursts! Beneath its dark green boughs

(Mid which the May-thorn blends its blossoms white),

Where broad smooth stones jut out in mossy seats,

I rest:—and now have gain'd the topmost site.

Ah! what a luxury of landscape meets

My gaze! Proud towers, and cots more dear to me,

Elm-shadow'd fields, and prospect-bounding sea:

Deep sighs my lonely heart: I drop a tear:
Enchanting spot! O were my Sara here!”

Cleeve Combe is another rugged valley of a character similar to that of Brockley. It is nearer the Yatton Stat., being 3 m. to the E. of it.

At the lower end of the combe rises *Cleeve Toot*, a conical pile of limestone rocks, the summits of which, as seen from the road, look like a huge chair, whence a fine view can be obtained. Below it is *Cleeve Court* (Mrs. Castle) and *Cleeve House*, Rev. J. W. Hardman, LL.D.

$130\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Yatton Stat.*, where branches diverge rt. to Clevedon, and l. by Axbridge and Cheddar to Wells (Rte. 22).

The village of *Yatton* ($\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of the stat.), has its name (Yatton = Gate-town) according to some, from the flood-gate of the estuary, now

dry, and converted into Kenn and Nailsea Moors. (Another more probable form of the name, *Eaton*, or Yeo-ton, or the "ton by the water," points to the same condition of the locality.) *Yatton Ch.* deserves careful attention. Though unequal, it is one of the finest of the Somersetshire churches. It is cruciform, with central tower and truncated spire. The chancel, transept, and base of the tower, contain portions of earlier date, E. E., Dec., and early Perp. The nave and N. chapel are Perp. of noble proportions and rich ornamentation. The W. front has a fine window, with a peculiar solid mullion running up its centre, set between hexagonal corner turrets with pyramidal caps. Similar smaller turrets flank the aisles. The W. door is rich, with statues in the jambs. The S. porch is lofty and elaborately carved, c. 1486. The N. door is a lovely composition under an ogee arch. The N. chapel, being loftier than the chancel, and having a lean-to roof, has a singularly awkward effect outside. At the N.E. angle is a staircase turret, with a spirelet of remarkable beauty. The nave arcade is very stately, and the details good. The roofs throughout are coved, with lateral featherings in the aisles. The crossing is low. The N. chapel is full of elaborate work—rich niches flanking the E. window; a lovely pillar piscina under a canopy; and a magnificent altar-tomb with a very lofty and elaborate canopy, with effigies of a knight in armour, and his lady. In the N. transept, erected 1498 by Isabel of Cheddar, wife of Sir John Newton, is the rich altar-tomb of Judge Newton, d. 1449, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, clothed in his robes with a collar of SS. round his neck, and his lady by his side. Under the N. window are 2 ogee-canopied recesses, containing a male and female effigy, apparently removed thither from another place. To the S. of the Ch. stands

the stepped base of a once remarkably fine Cross, erected 1499 at the cost of 18*l.* The former *Rectory* adjoining the churchyard, is a 15-cent. house worth notice.

[A branch of 4½ m. leads to the favourite watering-place of Clevedon. It passes on l. *Kingston-Seymour*, The Ch., of the 14th and 15th cents., has a good tower and spire. There is a peculiar squint in the S.W. angle of the chancel. A tablet inside commemorates the destructive inundations of 1606 and 1703. On a tombstone is the following strange epitaph:—

"J. H.

He was universally beloved in the circle of
His acquaintance; but united
In his death the esteem of all,
Namely, by bequeathing his remains."

Further on rt. is *Kenn*, supposed to be the original seat of Bp. Ken's family, to whom there are tablets in the little church, rebuilt 1861, and a monument with curious effigies to Christopher Ken, 1593.

CLEVEDON (*Inns*: Royal Hotel; Rock House; Bristol. Pop. 4869). This watering-place is a creation of the last 40 years, being the offshoot of a village which has been seated here from a remote time, 1 m. from the sea, under a rocky height called Dial Hill. It is a collection of villas, sheltered by high land on the N.E., and extending over undulating ground above the cliffs of a small bay. It is an increasing place, and a pier has been erected, opened Easter, 1869. S. and W. of it, the country is very flat for some miles, but it is hilly and beautiful to the E.

The places to be seen in the immediate vicinity are *Dial Hill*, *Waltton Castle*, and *Clevedon Court*; and at various distances, *Cadbury Camp*, the view from *Cadbury Hill*, *Brockley Combe*, *Cleeve Combe*, and the *Cheddar Cliffs*. At the end of the old village is

Myrtle Cottage, to which *S. T. Coleridge* brought his bride, Sarah Fricker, Oct. 4, 1795, and thus describes it—

“Low was our pretty cot; our tallest rose
Peeped at the chamber window. We could
hear
At silent noon, and eve, and early morn,
The sea's faint murmur. In the open air
Our myrtle blossom'd; and across the porch
Thick jasmins twined: the little landscape
round
Was green and woody, and refresh'd the eye.
It was a spot which you might aptly call
The Valley of Seclusion!”

The *Old Church*, St. Andrew, on Clevedon Point, “by that broad water of the west,” was in early times attached to the Abbey of St. Augustine in Bristol. It is cruciform in plan. Its principal feature is the Transition chancel arch. The lower part of the tower and the arch into the N. transept are Norman. The S. transept, externally supported by Dec. buttresses, has a fine Perp. window to the S. This church contains the effigy of a knight in a recumbent position, resting his feet upon a bull. In the S. transept are the mural tablets of the Elton family, and of Henry Hallam, the historian, and of his wife, daughter, and two sons. Mrs. Hallam was the daughter of Sir Abraham Elton of Clevedon Court. The name of their elder son, Arthur Hallam, is indissolubly associated with Tennyson's poem ‘In Memoriam.’ Mr. Hallam selected this as a burial-place, as he says in the memoir of his elder son, “not only from the connection of kindred, but on account of its still and sequestered situation on a lone hill that overhangs the Bristol Channel.” It is to this hill, and to this channel, and to this grave, to which the remains of the old, heartbroken father have since been added, that Tennyson refers in his pathetic lines—

“And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill!
But, O for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still!”

Break, break, break,
At the foot of thy crags, O sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
Will never come back to me.”

Christ Church is a modern building, standing out conspicuously on the brow of the hill, of which the style may be guessed from its date, 1838. The E. window contains some good old foreign painted glass.

All Saints, East Clevedon, is a beautiful and highly decorated cruciform edifice, consecrated 1860, with a central tower and low broach spire. The windows contain rich modern stained glass. The organ, by Willis, is a remarkably fine one.

St. John the Evangelist, consecrated 1878 as a memorial to the late Lady Elton, from Mr. Butterfield's designs, is a very costly building, with rich stained-glass windows and an elaborate reredos.

Dial Hill, which rises immediately above the town, commands a wide and attractive view, embracing the mountains of Glamorganshire, the Steep and Flat Holmes, the Mendips with their pyramidal height of Crook's Peak, and the whole range of Exmoor in the far distance, with its highest point, Dunkery Beacon, a little to the right of the Steep Holme. The Sugarloaf above Abergavenny may also be seen. Pathways conduct to various attractive points of view.

Continuing our walk from this hill along the coast, we descend upon a valley, which, once quiet and solitary, contained only the ruins of old *Walton Church*, with its grey walls and mutilated cross overgrown with ivy, but which has now become a large suburb of Clevedon, known as Walton-by-Clevedon. New houses and villas have rapidly risen, and the ruined church, its dedication changed from *St. Paul's* to *St. Mary's*, with a tall pinnacled tower, has been rebuilt, commanding a wide and attractive prospect. On the lofty hill beyond it are the remains of

Walton Castle, once probably a

hunting-seat of the Pawlett family. The ruins occupy the summit of a furzy height between the sea and the woods of Walton Court, and consist of an octagonal wall with a tower at each angle, and, in the area thus formed, an octagonal keep with a tower at one angle. There is little, however, ancient in the appearance of the castle, which was probably erected in the reign of James I. in the mediæval style. The walls are but slightly built, and they are pierced for large windows, which must have commanded magnificent prospects. At the farther end of the hill is a tower which forms an ornament to the grounds of *Walton Rectory*. Beyond it we can descend to a road which has come from Portishead and turns abruptly to the village of

Walton-in-Gordano, with a small modern *Ch.*, stands in a pretty dell among hills affording many beautiful scenes. Here the road from Clevedon to Portishead divides. The higher road to Portishead passes *Weston-in-Gordano*, of which the *Ch.* has some interesting features, and is well worthy of inspection. It is of Perp. date, with excellent E. window, screen, and chancel stalls with misereres, a curious recess apparently intended for a pulpit, and, as at *Wraxall Ch.*, the remnant of a small gallery over the S. door within the porch approached by narrow stone stairs. This may have been for the choristers who sang the "Gloria Laus et Honor" on Palm Sunday. Against the N. wall of the nave may be noticed the monument of Richard Perceval, who d. 1482, which has been well restored.

A portion of the old *Court-house* still remains on the S. side of the church.

From Walton we can return towards Clevedon, and visit

Clevedon Court (Sir Arthur Hallam Elton, Bart.), about 1 m. E. of the Stat. It was built in the reign of Edw. II., remodelled in that of Eliz.,

and much altered at various subsequent periods. It has a fine gabled front, chiefly of the 14th centy., with a porch and room over it, and a square-headed window with reticulated tracery. The kitchen and parts of the hall are the most ancient, but the fine oak roof is hidden by a modern ceiling. The library has a rich chimney-piece, erected by the Wake family in 1570. The hill above commanding a splendid view, together with the grounds, is open to the public every Thursday between the hours of 12 and 3. The house can only be seen on previous written application. The hall contains a number of family portraits, including one (a copy) of Hallam, the historian.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Clevedon Stat., $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Nailsea, in the valley, is

Tickenham, a village remarkable for the remains of a *manor-house*, of the early part of the 15th centy. The hall is nearly perfect, but has a plain modern roof. The domestic offices are in 2 stories, the upper approached by a newel staircase. The withdrawing room, and some of the upper rooms, have remains of rich flat oaken ceilings. The *Ch.*, which is a very interesting study, has a rude Norm. chancel arch, an E. E. S. porch, and a Dec. window studded with armorial shields. In the N. aisle are 2 cross-legged effigies in chain-mail, temp. Hen. III. or Edw. I., and one of a female, and in the churchyard the broken shaft of a cross overshadowed by ancient yew-trees.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond is *Wraxall*, beautifully situated in a hollow under the hill. In the *Church* remark the font and the altar-tomb of Sir E. and Lady Ann Gorges, 1512, the singular gallery above the porch door, as at *Weston-in-Gordano*, and the fine late 15th-century cross in the churchyard. The *manor-house* was a very fine building, but has been modernised except the porch,

which bears the characters S. G. 1658. In the vicinity are—*Wraxall Lodge*, J. Ford, Esq.; *Tyntesfield*, the magnificent new house of the late Will. Gibbs, Esq.; now tenanted by his widow.

On the hill above Tickenham is *Cadbury Camp*, a Belgic entrenchment of 7 acres, 190 yds. in diameter, with 2 ditches and 3 ramparts, on the same ridge of hills as Clevedon Court. It is on a commanding point, overlooking the vale of Nailsea on the one side, and of Portbury on the other, and is formed by 2 ramparts made of loose stones. In driving from Clevedon take the first lane to the left beyond Clevedon Court. Pedestrians should mount the zigzags above All Saints' Church, and keep along the crest of the hill.]

Proceeding again by railway:—we cross the Yeo, and, continuing our route across the marshy flats, observing how grandly the great outlying islands of limestone rise out of the sea of green pasture, we reach

136 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Weston-super-Mare Junction*, from which a branch line of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. conducts to

[WESTON - SUPER - MARE Stat. (*Hotels*: Imperial; Royal; Pier; Railway Hotel. Pop. 12,882). This fashionable watering-place is situated at the corner of a capacious bay under a rocky fir-covered hill. It sweeps along the shore in a crescent of handsome houses and a parade of great width, and commands a charming view of the mountains of Wales, of the 2 islets of Steep Holme and Flat Holme, and of its own rocky heights—Worle Hill above the town, and Brean Down at the S. horn of the bay. The sea, however, here is of a muddy colour, and its retreating waves expose such an extent of ooze

that the town has been nicknamed from it *Weston-super-mud*. But there is a smooth beach of sand. An alluvial level, once a marsh, extends inland to the foot of high hills. On the opposite point of the bay a rugged rock stands islanded in the sea. There is a very long and good esplanade, with reading-rooms, bazaars, and the usual agréments of watering-places. The *Prince Consort's Promenade Gardens* are just above Anchor Head.

Under the point of Worle Hill lies the rugged little islet of *Bearn Back*, from the middle of October to Christmas the scene of a busy *sprat fishery*. The capture is effected by nets stretched on poles from the shore to the island, and the fish thus secured are removed at low water when the channel is dry. The operation is worth seeing, especially at night, when the little fish glitter in the beams of the moon. The fishery is pursued along this coast on a considerable scale. More than 10,000*l.* has been made by it in a season; and a ton of sprats has been sold in Taunton market on a single day.

An iron pier, connecting the rugged islet of *Bearn Back* with the mainland, was opened in 1867, and forms a most agreeable promenade. A landing-stage at the foot of the island has also been constructed, allowing steamers to disembark passengers at all times of the tide.

At low water Bearn Back is accessible by a rough road known as the *Stepway*. This needs to be traversed with caution. The two sons of Sir C. Elton were caught by the tide here and drowned 1819 (see Clevedon, *ante*).

The parish *Ch.*, St. John the Baptist, was erected, 1824, on the site of the old fabric, and is a plain and ugly building. A new chancel was added to it in 1837, and a N. aisle in 1844. The E. window contains richly stained glass, some of it

ancient. On the E. wall of the S. porch is preserved a bas-relief representing the Trinity. The old mutilated font has been restored to the ch. In the ch.-yard is the stump of a cross. *Emmanuel Ch.* was erected in 1847, and two other churches have since been built, of which *Trinity Ch.* deserves some commendation for its originality, and *Christ Ch.* has a broach spire.

The *Town Hall*, with a feeble clock tower, was the gift of the present Dean of Gloucester (Very Rev. H. Law) when rector of Weston.

In the town there are several *intermittent springs* which are influenced by the sea. One at Clarence Lodge ceases to flow when the tide reaches the rocks, and others in the vicinity of Knightstone are variously affected.

Worle Hill rises 306 ft. above the sea. To ascend this hill, we proceed to Anchor Head, the extreme E. point of the town and bay, passing, on a rock called *Knightstone*, a group of lodging-houses and the *baths*, with an open reservoir in which the sediment is deposited from the muddy water, and turn up the hill by a path among the firs. It commands a view of the town below, of the Quantocks, the Mendips, the heights about Clifton, and the coast of Wales. But the most delightful walk is along the sea-front of the hill, where a prospect greets us which is certainly among the finest in the W. of England, including, seen through a foreground of firs and dark rocks of limestone, a near view of the Welsh mountains, and many distinct ranges in Somerset and the adjoining counties. Hence, too, we can see well the features characteristic of this part of Somerset, viz. the extensive marshy flats, each bounded by hills, and the numerous detached and outlying knolls.

Worle Hill, or *Worlebury*, is about 3 m. in length, but little more than

a furlong in breadth. On its summit are remains of a *camp* of about 20 acres, defended on the E. side by 2 ramparts of stone, and further protected on the weakest side by no less than 7 ditches. The area of the camp is divided into two unequal parts by a ditch running N. and S., the most strongly defended front lying to the W. The whole surface is abundantly indented by hut-circles, the foundations of the wigwams of the primitive occupiers of this stronghold. On excavating the *hut-circles* have been found arrow and spear heads; remains of the *Bos longifrons*, a species of ox known in Britain at an early period; and human bones and skulls much battered and notched, as if a desperate struggle had here occurred. Some of these objects are preserved in the Museum attached to the Albert Memorial Schools. The Rev. Mr. Warre thinks that this camp was destroyed by Ostorius in the reign of Claudius, and that the Britons were subsequently defeated here in the Saxon irruption under Ceawlin, year 577. Nothing Roman, save coins, has been discovered. A flight of about 200 rude stairs, called *Kew Steps*, descends to the village of Kewstoke, and what was once the shore before the sea receded. Along the top of the pass run the foundations of a building which was probably a military work, but is popularly supposed to have been the hermitage of St. Kew.

Along the flank of this hill a carriage-road has been cut through the wood of fir and oak to *Kewstoke*, 2 m., commanding at every part the most delightful views over the channel and Welsh mountains. Though private property, the drive is open to the public.

Kewstoke Ch. is an interesting little building, with a Norm. door and stone pulpit. A mural reliquary found here, containing a portion of a wooden cup stained with blood, supposed to be human, and to have been that of

Becket, brought from Woodspring Priory, is now in the Museum at Taunton Castle.

Excursions may be made to *Woodspring Priory*, to *Brockley Combe* (by rail to Nailsea), to *Clevedon*, to *Banwell*, 6 m.; to *Cheddar*, 12 m.; to *Crook's Peak*, 8 m.; to *Brent Knoll*, passing by *Lympsham*, well known for its beautiful church tower, and its rectory opposite, and *East Brent*, under the knoll, with a fine well-restored ch. (see *post*, p. 378).

[*Woodspring Priory*, originally *Worspring* or *Wospring*, is about 4 m. N. of Weston, at the farther end of Sand Bay, under a rocky headland called the *Middle Hope*, in a lonely position, in the marshes near the mouth of the Yeo. It was originally founded as an expiatory chapel in honour of St. Thomas of Canterbury, apparently by Reginald Fitz Urse, one of the leading actors in his murder, and converted into a priory of Austin Canons between 1205-1214, by William de Courtenay, grandson and, through his mother, heir of Fitz Urse. The pleasantest way to it is by the road as far as Kewstoke, and then by the shore to the Middle Hope. It is an interesting building, which will reward careful examination. It is entered by a fine double gateway with segmental arches. Passing through this, we find ourselves in a small courtyard, with modern domestic buildings on the N., and the front of the *Ch.* facing us. The W. window (blocked) is flanked by octagonal turrets. The *Ch.* consisted of a nave and chancel and central tower. It is late Perp., with traces of the original 13th-cent. work. The tower is a re-casting of the earlier structure, of the ordinary Somersetshire type. It is supported on 4 light arches, with a fan-vault, and rises two stories above the roof. The pinnacles are gone. There never were transepts. The chancel is destroyed, and the nave-aisles and crossing have been converted into

a farmhouse. The cloister court was to the S. of the *Ch.* The mark of the gable of the dormitory may be seen on the S. wall of the nave; at the opposite end are the remains of its spiral stair-turret. The entrance to the chapter-house may be seen in the opposite eastern wall. The refectory, to the S., a noble hall, with a good timber roof, 45 ft. by 19 ft., is used as a waggon-house. The Priory Barn retains its corner buttresses and moulded entrances.

Below the E. end of Worle Hill stands the little village of *Worle*, with a rudish *Ch.*, possessing a low tower and stumpy spire, S. door of 12th-cent. work, carved miserere seats, and a stone pulpit. Near the ch. is a large ancient barn, converted into a school.

Wick St. Lawrence, 1 m. S.E. of Woodspring, lies in the rich alluvial flat at the mouth of the Yeo. The small Perp. *Ch.* has a very rich stone pulpit. In an open space at the back of some cottages is a mutilated but stately Cross of late 15th-cent. work.]

[*Uphill Old Ch.*, 2 m. S.W., deserted and ruinous, is an object for another short ramble. Pursuing the level road which skirts the shore of the bay, you reach the rocky hill which it crowns. Consisting of a nave, a chancel, and a central tower, it exhibits the architecture of almost every style from Norman to late Perpendicular. The Norm. N. porch is one of its chief features.]

Uphill is supposed to have been the Roman *Axium*, from which the mining produce of the Mendips was shipped. [A Roman road has been traced over the Mendips, along Wavery Down to Charter House, by Masbury to Leighton in Cloford, where it is lost in what was Selwood Forest to reappear at Quar Hill on the borders of Wilts, and over the Wiltshire Downs to Old Sarum.—See *Introduction*.] In the hill on which the ch. stands is

Uphill Cavern, one of those bone-caves so numerous in the mountain limestone. It was discovered in 1826, and was then filled with the remains of sheep, oxen, pigs, and horses, and of animals long since extinct in this country, such as the elephant, rhinoceros, bear, and hyæna. Many of these bones were indented with the marks of teeth, so that the cavern was, doubtless, at one time a den of wild beasts.

Uphill Ch. is a notable landmark, and commands an extensive view, particularly towards the S.W., in which direction the eye ranges to the Quantocks across the great *Burnham Level*, resting midway on *Brent Knoll*, which rises from this plain with singular abruptness. It was doubtless once an island in the wide estuary corresponding to the "Holmes" of the Bristol Channel. According to William of Malmesbury, its original name was "*insula ranarum*," the island of frogs, and was infested by three giants "*malefactis famosissimi*," who were slain in the days of King Arthur by the valiant Ider. Below the hill the river Axe sluggishly creeps to the sea, and at its mouth rises *Brean Down*, where the white cistus did grow, and may, perhaps, still be found; and where a fort has been erected for the protection of the ports of the Bristol Channel, in connection with another battery erected on the Flat Holme, and one on Lavernock Point. This bold and conspicuous promontory, with precipitous cliffs, is in a direct line with the Steep Holme, another outlier of the Mendip limestone. The sandy beach extends without a break to the embouchure of the Brue, some 7 m. distant.

A delightful ramble may be had from Brean Down, which can be reached from Weston, by boat, when the tide serves,—or by road through Uphill and Bleadon, crossing the river Axe at Hobb's Boat,—or by a new road along the rly. Observe

the ancient earthworks across the down, the beacon on the summit, and the sites of several British hut-circles.

Brean Ch., 2 m. further S., forms a quaint group, with the gabled stump of a tower. The churchyard cross is nearly buried in the sand. The northerly dip of the mountain limestone may be observed in the fractured end of Brean Down.

[*Hutton Ch.*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Weston Junction Stat., is a small but interesting building, on a slight eminence, possessing a sanctus bell-cot, a stone pulpit, and groined belfry, with a Jacobean monument to Nathaniel Still, 1626, son of Bishop Still, and his wife, some brasses to the Payne family. *Hutton Manor-house*, an ancient building, modernised, with a tower of defence, contains a 15th-cent. hall, with arched roof and panelled chimney-piece. Above Hutton, S., rises the long lofty ridge of *Bleadon Hill*, the scene, according to Hearne, of a bloody contest with the Danes. On the W. side are some British earthworks. *Bleadon* was the manor of Earl Godwin's wife, Githa, who gave it to the support of the refectory of Winchester. The *Ch.* on the S. side of the hill has a good pinnacled tower, with a good groined roof, struck by lightning in 1852. It has a low side-window, a stone pulpit, and in the S. porch a curious bas-relief of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Infant Saviour. Two mutilated effigies lie in the churchyard. There is a very pretty cross in the churchyard.]

[The *Steep Holme* and *Flat Holme* (Holm, Scandinavian for island), rocky islets off this coast, are objects well known to all who navigate the Bristol Channel, as they stand directly in the course of vessels, and the latter shows a light for their guidance. They are both outlying masses of the mountain limestone of the Mendip range, on the axis of the

chain prolonged under the sea, the one being connected with Crook's Peak by the links of Brean Down, Uphill, and Bleadon Hill; the other with Banwell Hill by those of Bearn Back and Worle Hill.

The Steep Holme rises 400 ft. from the sea. It is (or *was*) known to botanists as the habitat of the *single pæony*. It is a rock about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. round, very difficult of access. Gildas took refuge here, and wrote his treatise '*De Excidio Britanniae*,' and it afforded an asylum to the Danes after the defeat at Watchet, and to Harold's mother after the battle of Hastings. A ruined wall marks the site of a priory founded by one of the Lords Berkeley in the 14th cent.

The Flat Holme, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. round, with good bathing, is much visited in summer by excursion steamers.]

Starting again, we dash through a projecting tongue of the Mendips by the deep *Uphill cutting*, which displays an excellent section of the strata, including some igneous rocks. We then enter the alluvial flats, or *levels*, of N. Somerset, a district of about 200 sq. m., watered by Drayton's

"battening, marshy Brent,"

remarkable for fertility, extending from Wells to Bridgwater, and well known for affording some of the most valuable grazing land in England. The Pawlet Hams on the Parrett, between Bridgwater and the sea, are the richest grazing grounds in the county; let sometimes for as much as 5*l.* or 6*l.* an acre. All these levels are banked from the sea, the coast being higher than the marsh, so that the drainage is inland, and are intersected in every direction by dykes, or *rhines*, for the drainage, and in many places contain extensive beds of peat, often 30 ft. deep, enclosing the horns of the red deer, and the blackened trunks and branches of oak-trees (locally "underground oak"). Around this great

plain of 200 sq. m. are seen what may have been ancient coast lines with hills projecting as promontories, or standing detached like islands. These break the monotony of the level surface; but intrinsically the district has a certain claim to attention. To a farmer the mere ground that will fatten a bullock on every acre will be probably as attractive as any hillside hung with wood or scarred by unprofitable rocks, but the botanist may also revel among its rare and dainty flowers—such as the *Osmund royal* or King Fern, the *andromeda*, the *bog myrtle*, the *asphodel*, and the *sundew*; the entomologist will find many uncommon insects, and the antiquary be rewarded for seeking out its churches and manor-houses. In Tudor and Stuart times the marsh had its "aristocracy," wealthy graziers, whose acres were as numerous as their broad pieces, who farmed their own estates, and lived in the fine old English style in the midst of their herds. Those were the genial days when

"Muster Guy was a gentleman
O' Huntspill, well known
As a grazier, a hirsch un
Wi' lands o' his awn;"

"but mangold-wurzel and the swede turnip," says Mr. Acland, "have introduced great changes, and the race no longer exists in its glory." The cone of *Brent Knoll* is seen on the l. rising 457 ft. above the marshes. It is composed of lias, with a cap of inferior oolite; the cap being pretty well defined by the earthworks of an ancient camp, in which Roman coins and other relics have been found. There is a tradition that King Alfred here defended himself against the Danes, and the name of *Battleborough*, at the foot of the hill, is evidence of some fight having occurred here. The Romans took possession of the country between the Avon and the Parrett in the reign of the Emperor Claudius,

3 m. from Weston Junction l. is *Lympsham Ch.*, with its leaning tower of the ordinary type of Somersetshire steeples. The parapet belongs to a 17th-cent. restoration, perhaps after the great storm of 1632; the date 1633 appears on the S. window. The N. aisle has a rich panelled roof. The fanciful *Rectory* stands close by. Further on, we pass on the same side of the rly.,

East Brent to the N. and *South Brent* to the W. of Brent Knoll, both with interesting churches. That of *East Brent* is wholly Perp., with a tower surmounted by a wooden spire, decorated with rudish niches containing a curious series of roughly worked statues, representing the Blessed Virgin and Infant Saviour, the Divine Father holding the crucifix, and our Lord in Majesty. In the S. aisle is the effigy of an ecclesiastic. The windows contain some ancient stained glass, which deserves notice. The chancel is modern. There is a mutilated churchyard cross. The *Ch.* of *South Brent* is likewise wholly Perp., with the exception of a Trans. S. doorway, and a Dec. S. transeptal chapel. The nave is long, and has a good arcade to the N. There is a remarkable number of fine bench ends, with grotesque carvings and poppy heads. A curious Jacobean monument commemorates "Jonn Somerset gent." and his two wives. The tower is good, and has pinnacles and a pierced parapet. Both the Brents belonged formerly to the abbots of Glastonbury, who had here a manor-house at E. Brent, taken down in 1708.

[The old *Lady Well* has recently been cleared, and another fine spring developed by Archdeacon Denison, Vicar of East Brent, who has erected reservoirs for supplying the village with pure water from the base of the knoll. During the excavations remains of the old abbot's mill were brought to light.]

Crooked Lane leads from this vil-

lage to the lighthouse near Burnham.

145½ m. *Highbridge Stat.*, the junction for the *Somerset and Dorset Rly.* (Rte. 20); where also a branch diverges to the watering-place of Burnham, 1½ m. rt. Close to the *stat.* l. is a new church, conspicuous for its spire and roof, banded with red and black tile.

[*Burnham (Inns:* Clarence Hotel; Reed's Arms, good new hotel, close to the station. Pop. 2550.) is much frequented by the inhabitants of Bridgwater and Bristol. It has a fine sandy beach; but the sea retires from it 4 m. at low water. ½ m. to the N. is the *lighthouse* to show the entrance of the River Parrett; and close to the beach are 2 *mineral springs*, near each other, the one saline, the other sulphurous. *Burnham Ch.* is chiefly remarkable for a very stately white marble altarpiece, designed by Inigo Jones for Whitehall Chapel, erected by Sir Chr. Wren in Westminster Abbey, removed for the coronation of George IV., and given by Bishop King, of Rochester, who was then canon of Westminster, to this parish, of which he was vicar. It is many sizes too large for the ch., of which it obliterates the E. window. There is a long nave and chancel, with panelled waggon-roof.

Continuing our route, we keep in view the Mendips, and pass *Huntspill*, perhaps named from "Hun," the leader of the men of Somerset, killed in the battle of Ellandun, A.D. 823. *Huntspill Ch.* was destroyed by fire immediately after restoration, Dec. 9, 1878, and reopened after a second restoration, April 8, 1880. Little that is old is left, except the pillars and arches reddened by fire. The chancel stalls and all the seats are of carved oak. The font, designed by Sir E. Beckett, is the gift of himself and Lady Beckett. The altar candlesticks were brought from the chapel of Balliol College, the patrons

of the living. Passing the isolated knoll of *Pawlet*, rt., and the ridge of *Poldon Hill*, l., and traversing *Horsey Slime*, a pasture-land remarkable for its richness, we enter the station of

151½ m. BRIDGWATER, on the outskirts of the town. (*Inns*: Royal Clarence Hotel; Railway Hotel; Globe, by the bridge. Pop. 12,024.) Bridgwater is seated on the banks of the Parrett, 6 m. in a direct line from the sea, and 12 m. by the course of the river, on the border of a marshy plain which stretches from the Mendip to the Quantock hills. It is an ancient town. It derives its name—a corruption of *Brugie* of *Walter*, erroneously Latinised in documents of the 15th and 16th cents. into '*Aquæ Pons*'—from *Walter* of *Douai*, a Norman baron, on whom the manor, then called *Brugie*, was bestowed by the Conqueror. It is a busy town chiefly of red-brick houses, connected by an iron bridge with a suburb called *Eastover*, burnt by *Fairfax* in 1645. The castle N. of the bridge on the banks of the Parrett was built in *John's* time, 1201, by *Walter de Briwere*, who also commenced the bridge of three arches, and the haven which were finished temp. *Edw. I.* by *Sir Thomas Trivet*, one of the king's justices. The earliest charter, confirming those of *Walter de Briwere*, is one of *Edward I.* In the reign of *Edw. IV.* the town had lost much of its trade from neglect of the needful repairs of the port.

At the time of the Great Rebellion, the castle, which mounted 40 guns, and the town were held for the king by *Col. Wyndham*, but were taken July 23, 1645, by *Fairfax*. *Fairfax*, with his army, of which he was the nominal general, but *Cromwell* the real head, sat down before the town after the battle of *Langport*, July 11, 1645. The storming commenced Monday, July 21st, after sermons by *Hugh Peters* on the

day before, who did his work "*tam Marte quam Mercurio*" (*Sprigge*), and the suburb of *Eastover* was taken, and, being fired by red-hot shot from the garrison, was burnt to the ground. The old town was surrendered on the 23rd, about 1000 officers and soldiers, besides gentlemen and malignant clergy, marched out as prisoners. There were also taken jewels, plate, and goods to the value, it is said, of £100,000, which had been sent to the castle, supposed to be impregnable, from all parts of the neighbourhood. These were sold in London, giving 5s. to each soldier. After the surrender the town was fired, and great part of it burnt. This exploit crowned *Fairfax's* successes in the West, giving the Parliament a chain of garrisons from the Bristol to the English Channel, and cutting off all communication between the royalist forces in the West and the rest of England. The news of the fall of Bridgwater was a heavy one to *Charles I.*, who had been repeatedly assured that the place was absolutely impregnable. He refused to listen to any explanations, and regarded its surrender, after less than a week's siege, an utterly inexcusable act. The loss of so important a garrison broke the spirits of the royalist party, and made all despair.

The Duke of Monmouth was proclaimed king by the mayor and corporation in their robes of office at the High Cross, June 21, 1685. He returned thither, July 2, "in circumstances far less cheering than those in which he had marched thence 10 days before. At one moment he thought of fortifying the town, and hundreds of labourers were summoned to dig trenches and throw up mounds."—*Macaulay*. Monmouth had his quarters at the castle, which he left for the fatal field of *Sedgemoor*, 3 m. E., by what is still called *War Lane*, Sunday, July 6.

The Church of *St. Mary Magda-*

lene, a large uninteresting structure of red stone, is principally remarkable for its slender spire, which rises to a height of 174 ft. from the ground. The spire has been once struck by lightning. The greater part of the ch. appears to have been altered or rebuilt about 1420; the N. porch, and some of the windows of the nave being older, and dating probably between 1327-77. The N. porch is a fine specimen of the Geometrical style. The very curious squints or hagioscopes in this porch once commanding a view of the high altar were shamelessly destroyed during an unhappy restoration in 1851, when many ancient features perished, and a Dec. clerestory was absurdly erected over Perp. arcades. The roof and screens are of black oak. The altarpiece, a Descent from the Cross, is said to have been taken as a prize from a Spanish privateer, and presented to the ch. by the Hon. Anne Pawlet (so called from his godmother, Queen Anne), M.P. for the borough. It is a good picture of the Bolognese school, but its painter is uncertain. The chancel contains an Elizabethan monument to Sir Francis Kingsmill, 1620; the exterior wall of the N. transept an arched recess with effigies; and the churchyard the tomb of *Oldmixon*, one of the heroes of the 'Dunciad,' d. 1742, whose dull, unlearned historical works display a strong spirit of Whig partisanship, for which he was rewarded with the collectorship of customs at this port. His criticism was chiefly conspicuous for unscrupulous abuse of Pope and other eminent men of his day.

The beautiful modern *Church of St. John* is in the suburb of Eastover, and was built in 1846 by the Rev. J. M. Capes, at a cost of 10,000*l.* In the churchyard a stone marks the burial-place of 88 persons who died of cholera in 1849. This ch. occupies the site of a *Hospital of St. John*, founded for the support of a com-

munity of Augustine monks, and for the entertainment of pilgrims, by the early patrons of Bridgwater, the family of Briwere.

The *Town Hall* is a classical structure, erected 1865. It contains copies of Winterhalter's portraits of the Queen and the Prince Consort, and other pictures. In the Grand Jury Room, are 3 pieces of tapestry which were formerly at Enmore Castle, and were purchased at the sale of Lord Egmont's property. Behind stands a large Music Hall, erected as a memorial of the Prince Consort.

The *Corn Exchange* is a handsome and commodious building, opened 1875.

King Square, once the Castle Baily, behind the Clarence Hotel, was the site of *Bridgwater Castle*, built by William de Briwere, 1202, but long since destroyed, with the exception of the Water Gate, on the Western quay, and some other fragments forming the wall of a stable in Castle Street, and the bonded cellars at the custom-house. *Castle Field* is memorable as the spot on which Monmouth encamped before the fatal fight of Sedgemoor.

An Elizabethan house in Mill Street, now Blake Street, containing within some well-preserved remnants of the original mansion, was the birthplace of the gallant *Admiral Blake*, the Republican commander, and successful opponent of Van Tromp. His father was a merchant, and his mother the coheiress of a knightly family. He was born in 1599, but was 50 years of age before he commenced his naval career.

An arched doorway in Silver Street, rt., is supposed to have belonged to a *Monastery of Grey Friars*, founded 1230 by the 2nd William de Briwere.

The *Bath-brick Works* are by the river-side, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. above and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below the bridge; this town being the only place in the world where these articles are made. They

are formed of a peculiar mixture of clay and sand which the flood and ebb tides deposit in turn at the above-named points. The sediment having been removed from the river is consolidated by drying, and cut into oblong masses, well known as Bath bricks, this name being probably given them from Bath having been the place of deposit where the bricks were stored, and from which they made their way over the kingdom. [Stilton cheese is a similar example of an article of commerce taking its name from the place where it was on sale, though not manufactured there.] The business gives employment to a great number of persons, 8,000,000 bricks, valued from 12,000*l.* to 13,000*l.*, being made every year.

Farther down the river is a *Pottery* for coarse ware, formerly the Glass-house, in which French prisoners were confined; and above the bridge an *Iron Foundry*, belonging to the Bristol and Exeter Rly. There are also large breweries, cement and plaster-of-Paris works. The foreign trade is chiefly with America and Russia.

The *Bore*, or *Eager*, the tidal wave which rushes up the Parrett on the flood of spring tides, is a phenomenon common to the Severn and other tidal rivers, where the rise and fall is very considerable, and the channel funnel-shaped. These causes produce an immediate rise of a large body of water, which hurries onward as an upright wave, its velocity allowing no time for the gradual elevation of the surface by transmitted pressure. After a gale from the W., the Bore is often 9 ft. in height, but it is usually 5 or 6 ft., the entire flow of the spring tide being 36 ft. Fairfax very narrowly escaped being carried away by this tidal wave, July 14, 1645.

[*Chilton Priory*, a small modern building, furnished as a museum, 5½ m. on the road to Glastonbury, stands on *Cock Hill*, a narrow ridge along which the road runs, com-

manding on each side the most extensive and interesting views; 1. the entire range of the Mendips, together with Brent Knoll, is seen across the intervening fen, called the Marsh; rt. the scarped heights about Langport, the Blackdown and Quantock Hills, the Bridgwater Levels, and Bridgwater itself with its needle-like spire.

A pleasant walk of 1½ m. through the meadows leads to *Wembdon*. *Wembdon Ch.* was burnt down in 1868, and rebuilt. There is a much-dilapidated churchyard cross, where there is a Holy Well, dedicated to St. John, arched over with stone, mentioned as a miraculous spring in a mandate from Bp. Beekington, 1464. *Bower Farm*, in the parish of *Durleigh*, 1¾ m. S.W., standing in the midst of fields, is an interesting old manor-house on a small scale, with 2 towers and a fine old window, and the remains of a moat. It was once the residence of the Dukes of Somerset. *Durleigh Ch.* is small and plain, without aisles. The tower is gabled.

A beautiful drive may be taken through *Spaxton* and up *Cockercombe*, a romantic and well-wooded ravine, to the top of the Quantocks, whence the traveller can descend to *Crowcombe* (Rte. 32), or return to Bridgwater through *Nether Stowey* (*ibid.*).

[*Sedgemoor*, 3 m. E., the scene of the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth by the King's forces under the Earl of Feversham, Monday, July 6, 1685, "the last fight deserving the name of a battle that has been fought on English ground" (*Macaulay*), is a long narrow tract of land S. of Pol-den Hill, and bounded by the hills of Somerton and High Ham, and divided from the valley of the Parrett by the rising ground of Aller, Middlezoy, and Othery. The battle was fought on the extreme W. edge of the morass, between Bridgwater and Weston Zoyland. It is intersected by dykes, especially the Bussex Rhine, which cut off Monmouth from the

army he hoped to surprise, and contributed not a little to the discomfiture of Monmouth's untrained troops, whose guide missed his way in the fog and gloom. The scene of the battle was between Weston Zoyland, Chedzoy, and Bridgwater. A mound S., Chedzoy, near Brentfield Bridge, marks the place of the interment of the slain. Feversham had his headquarters at Weston Zoyland, where the royal cavalry lay. The Wilts militia were quartered at Middlezoy, under the command of Pembroke. On the open moor, not far from Chedzoy, several battalions of regular infantry were encamped. "Monmouth looked gloomily on them. 'I know those men,' said he; 'if I had but them, all would go well.'" The royal troops, when apprised of the advance of the rebels, fired such a volley as sent the horse flying in all directions. The infantry, though deserted by their leader, who had mounted and rode from the field, made a gallant stand, till their ammunition was exhausted, and the royal artillery (horsed in part by the coach horses of Bp. Mew, of Winchester) then came up, and the rout was in a few minutes complete; 3000 of the rebels lying dead upon the moor. Before evening 500 prisoners had been crowded into the ch. of Weston Zoyland, whose fine Perp. tower, 105 ft. in altitude, is a conspicuous object from all sides. On the fatal field Feversham commenced those cruel executions which were afterwards so ably carried on by the bloody Jeffreys and Kirke. About 20 were executed after the battle, and the moor between Weston and Bridgwater was marked by a long range of gibbets. A prisoner being pointed out to him as a remarkably swift runner, the Earl induced him, by a promise of his life, to show him an instance of his agility. A halter was fastened round his neck, and attached at the other end to a horse, when the rider starting away on the

gallop, the runner kept even with him for the distance of half a mile along the stream called *Bussex Rhine to Brentsfield Bridge*. This feat having been performed, the general, in defiance of his compact, gave an order that the poor man should be hung with his fellows. But another prisoner, if we are to believe the story, was more fortunate. He leaped for his life; and at the third bound escaped into an adjoining wood. His name was Swayne, and *Swayne's Jumps*, marked by 3 stones, are to this day pointed out in Loxley Wood on the Shapwick estate.

Weston Zoyland Ch., 4 m. S.E., has a fine and lofty Perp. tower, which should be ascended by those who desire to make themselves masters of the scene of the battle of Sedgemoor (at first called "the battle of Weston"). The nave is of unusual length. The clerestory is full of beauty and grace. On the S. wall is the monogram of Richard Beere, last abbot but one of Glastonbury, who recast and added to the church. There is a well-preserved recumbent effigy of a priest.

Chedzoy Ch., 3 m. E., has a fine tower, but without sufficient architectural connection between its separate stages. The front bears the initials of Abbot Beere. The arched within, of the 13th cent., is very fine, but much mutilated. The windows are good. There are some fine bench-ends of Queen Mary's time. One bears a crowned M. within a garter, with the date 1559. The altar-cloth is made from a splendid embroidered cope, discovered a few years since beneath the pulpit, where it had been thrust away some 3 centuries since. There is also a fine military brass, c. 1490. On a sandstone in one of the southern buttresses, it is said, the axes were sharpened for the battle of Sedgemoor, and from the tower the approach of the royal troops was discovered through a telescope preserved

in the Taunton Museum. In a garden near the church is a cross, restored by W. Stradling, 1818. Dr. Raleigh, nephew of Sir Walter R., Dean of Wells, was rector of Chedzoy. The lamentable sufferings caused by his loyalty, and his murder in his own residence at Wells, are fully detailed in Walker's 'Sufferings of the Clergy.'

Middlezoy, 6 m. S.E., on the Parrett, has a *Ch.* with a plain, massive tower, oblong in plan, and Dec. chancel with good windows. A brass commemorates a French chevalier, Louis de Misteres, who, after serving 18 years in the British army "with great courage and gallantry," fell at the battle of Sedgemoor, having "behaved himself with all y^e courage imaginable against the king's enemies commanded by y^e rebel Duke of Monmouth." Fairfax and Cromwell with their forces were at Middlezoy, July 10–12, 1645, after the battle of Langport, and before the storming of Bridgwater.

3 m. S.W. is *North Petherton*, which has a fine Perp. *ch.* of true Somersetshire type, and remarkable for one of the most ornate towers of the same class as Huish, Dundry, &c. There is a clerestory, and it has transeptal chapels and large porches; the whole very well finished. The windows are large, and the chancel-roof very good. Under the sill of the E. window is an original vestry, in which are preserved some monumental brasses. There is a 15th-cent. cross to the E. of the N. porch on a quatrefoiled octagonal base.]

[*Halswell House* (Col. Tynte), rebuilt 1689, by Sir Halswell Tynte, 4 m. W. of Bridgwater, commands a splendid prospect of wooded hill and vale, with views over the sea and to blue ranges in the distance. A stream runs through the valley, here rippling over stones, there tumbling in a cascade; and charming rides traverse the woods and climb the hills to commanding points of view,

occupied by grottoes and temples; one called the *Rotunda*, with Ionic portico, another *Robin Hood's Temple*, and a third the *Druid's Temple*, where the view is gloomy and confined, the water winding silently along. Adjoining the estate is the hamlet of *Goathurst*, with an ancient church containing the monuments of the Halswells and of the Tyntes. "Of the surname of this latter family, tradition," says Burke, "has handed down the following derivation. In 1192, at the celebrated battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse's housings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself, that Richard Cœur-de-Lion remarked publicly, after the victory, that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion, and done deeds equal to those of 6 crusaders; whereupon he conferred on him, for arms, a lion arg. on a field gules, between 6 crosslets of the first, and for motto, '*Tinctus cruore Saraceno*.'"

Enmore Castle, rt. of the road, and opposite to Halswell, built by John 2nd Earl of Egmont, c. 1750, now the property of T. Palfrey Broadmead, Esq., is a curiously constructed and very ugly house, with semicircular bastions and drawbridge on one front and colonnades on the other. The castle has been dismantled by the present owner, who has erected the present house of *Enmore Park*. Adjoining it is the *Ch.*, with a Norm. doorway, an E. E. chancel, and a fine western tower. The pinnacled crown of the staircase-turret deserves notice. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, and in the churchyard old yew-trees and the shaft and steps of an ancient cross. The estate is situated at the foot of the Quantock Hills. On the S.W. slope of the hill stands *Cothelstone*, 9 m. on the road over Quantock to Taunton, once the manor-house of the Stawels, but now a farmhouse (see *post*).

5 m. of deeply sunken lanes from Bridgwater bring us to the village of *Charlinch*, the seat of the once notorious *Agapémone*, "the abode of love," founded by "Brother Prince," and the seat of his dupes, who at one time numbered nearly 200, of whom 5 were clergymen. Most were possessed of property which they made over to Prince, and lived in the *Agapémone*, having all things in common. Walls, from 12 to 15 ft. high, enclose about 5 acres, occupying one of the loveliest spots in the S. of England, looking in one direction across a narrow valley to the Bristol Channel, and in the other to the Quantocks. Over the gateway is a tower on which waved a flag bearing a holy lamb when Brother Prince was at home. The establishment consisted of a chapel with 2 groups of rose-clad cottages standing in a beautiful flower-garden, with hothouses filled with orchids and other rare flowers, and a conservatory where cages of singing birds hung from orange-trees, under which stood a piano and couches. The chapel, 70 ft. by 30 ft., was devoid of any religious furniture. The chancel was covered with a blue Turkey carpet, and contained blue velvet arm-chairs and sofas and other drawing-room furniture; the place of the altar occupied by a billiard-table, and musical instruments scattered about. "Everything that can charm the senses is sedulously cared for, and games—hockey, cricket, and football—are engaged in, especially on Sundays, with much zeal." In the flourishing state of his fortunes, Brother Prince appeared to the Gentiles in almost royal state, driving out in a carriage-and-four, with postilions and outriders, attended by bloodhounds; but defections and lawsuits have diminished their resources, and they have been reduced to a single horse vehicle, the bloodhounds and outriders have disap-

peared, and the delusion is dying out.—(*Macmillan's Mag.*, Oct. 1867.)

Spaxton Ch., 5 m., contains some very interesting well-carved bench-ends, and an ancient and curious alms chest. There is a beautiful canopied cross, with the Holy Rood and other sculptures in the head, of the 14th cent. An old *Court House* adjoins the ch.; and at *Gothelney*, in the parish of Charlinch, is a mediæval manor-house, with tower, &c., once the residence of the Bourne family.]

Continuing our route, the rly. pursues its course along the skirts of a hilly country, in company with the river Tone and the Great Western Canal, to

157½ m. *Durston Stat.*, from which a line branches off on the l. to *Yeovil*, 17 m. (Rte. 27). *Durston Ch.* is small and has good Dec. windows.

163 m. **TAUNTON** Stat., on the N. side of the town (*Inns*: London Hotel, Castle Hotel—good, Clarke's Hotel, Railway Hotel, George; Pop. of Parly. borough, 16,611). Taunton is seated on a rising ground above the river Tone, from which it derives its name, and in a rich and picturesque country—its famous vale of *Taunton Dean* being bounded by the wild ranges of the Quantock and Blackdown hills. It is the county town of W. Somerset, now, as in Clarendon's time, "the fairest, largest, and richest town in Somersetshire," and has long been celebrated for its healthy position, sunny aspect, broad streets, respectable houses, and beautiful parish churches. At the present day its chief points of interest are its churches and the remains of the Castle, and its museum.

Taunton is a town of high antiquity. The discovery of bronze celts, knives, cloak-pins, and other examples of prehistoric art at the Union Workhouse, and at Sherford, proves the existence of a British settlement here. The coins which

have been found in it sanction a belief that it was a Roman station, and there is no doubt that in Saxon times it became a place of importance. Taunton was founded by Ina, King of the West Saxons, between 710 and 722 as a border fortress to defend his new conquests from the West Welsh. His castle must have been a mere earthwork defended by stockades and ditches, and perhaps some masonry. This fortress was seized by the rebel Albriht, and taken and dismantled by Ina's queen, Ethelburga. A charter in the name of Ethelward, Ina's successor, 737, granting Taunton to the see of Winton, is considered spurious; but there is no doubt that in 904 it belonged to that bishoprick, with which it continued connected for many centuries. The castle was built by Bp. Giffard, temp. Henry I. Perkin Warbeck on his advance from Cornwall seized the town and castle in Sept. 1497, but he quickly evacuated them on the approach of the troops of Henry VII. He fled for sanctuary at Beaulieu, and having given himself up to the king's officers, was brought back a prisoner to Henry VII., who had reached Taunton, Oct. 4. It was taken and retaken by the contending parties in the Civil Wars, and in 1645 the castle was twice defended with heroic valour by Blake, afterwards the renowned Admiral of the Commonwealth. Blake's defence of Taunton was one of the most spirited actions which occurred during the Rebellion. Pressed by an army of 10,000 men, who spared no effort to gain the place, he scouted all idea of surrender, even after his ammunition was spent, and his provisions so diminished that, according to the local tradition, told also at Nunney Castle, and other besieged strongholds in the county, there was but one hog left in the town, which half-starved animal was whipped round the walls, and made to cry in different places,

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.*]

to deceive the besiegers into a belief that fresh supplies had been thrown in. Blake declared that he would eat his boots before he yielded, and continued to resist after a breach had been made, and the enemy had actually gained possession of a part of the town. "Whole streets were burnt down by the mortars and grenades of the cavaliers. Food became so scarce that the resolute governor announced his intention of putting the garrison on rations of horseflesh. But the spirit of the town had never been subdued either by fire or hunger."—*Macaulay*. The first siege was raised May 11, simply on the intelligence of the approach of Fairfax. In June 1685, the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was here welcomed with transports of joy and affection. Damsels of the best families wove colours for the insurgents. A flag, embroidered with emblems of royalty, was offered him by a train of young girls. The lady who headed the procession presented him with a sword and small Bible. On the morning of June 20 he was proclaimed king in the market-place. At Taunton he put forth his proclamations, setting a price on the head of James II., and commanding the House of Commons to disperse as an illegal assembly. After Monmouth's defeat at Sedgemoor, Col. Kirke and his "lambs" were let loose on Taunton. His memory is still preserved by the name Tangier, of which place he had been governor, borne by a district of the town which had been the chief quarters of his soldiers. Executions, without the form of a trial, commenced. Kirke himself occupied a timber house, still standing, at the corner between the market-place and High Street, formerly the White Hart, the sign-post of which served as a gallows. (The White Hart Inn was a few years ago kept by the Mannings, the notorious murderers.) It was believed in London that Kirke put 100 prisoners to death in the week that followed the

battle. This irregular massacre was soon followed by no less cruel, but more judicial, acts of barbarity. Jeffreys' "Bloody Assize" began. (The judge's lodgings were till recently pointed out in an old framed house at the corner of High Street and Fore Street, now demolished.) On the judge's arrival, he declared in his charge that it would not be his fault if he did not depopulate the place—a threat which he did his best to carry out. In vain did Bp. Ken write to the King to implore mercy for his misguided diocese, complaining that it was impossible to walk along the highways without seeing some ghastly spectacle, and that the whole air of Somersetshire was tainted with death. The judicial massacre went on unabated. Even the poor children, who had presented the colours to Monmouth, had to purchase their pardon by bribes to the Queen's maids of honour, who employed as their agent, not the famous Wm. Penn, as Lord Macaulay has erroneously maintained, but one George Penne, a leading dealer in this infamous traffic. At length, to the relief of the inhabitants, the chief justice proposed "to jog homewards," having transported 385 persons and hung 97.

The *Ch. of St. Mary Magdalen* is celebrated as one of the largest and finest Perp. churches in England, and for its magnificent tower, which for beauty of proportions, excellence of workmanship, and elaborate richness of decoration, combined with lightness of effect, holds, if not the very first place, a very high rank among the splendid Perp. towers for which Somersetshire is so deservedly famous. It rises to a height of 153 ft. in 4 stories, the lowest containing a rich doorway, with a holy water stoup on each side, and a large 5-light window; each of the 3 upper stories lighted with 2 windows, the belfry story

elaborately panelled, and crowned by a very light pierced battlement with openwork turrets rising into crocketed spires at the angles. It is hardly possible to exaggerate the union of grace and dignity in this glorious tower. The whole having shown evidence of dangerous insecurity, was taken down to the ground 1858–62, and rebuilt as nearly as possible in facsimile at a cost of 8000*l.*, the work being completed in 1862. All the niches are filled with statues. The ch. is entirely Perp. without, with large windows. On the S. porch is the date 1508.

On entering the ch., under the fan-traceried vault of the tower, the visitor will be much struck by the magnificence and harmoniousness both in design and colouring of the interior, which underwent a very munificent restoration, under the auspices of its former vicar, Dr. Cottle, in 1845. The roof is of black oak richly decorated with polychrome; the clerestory windows are divided by elaborately carved niches; and the whole nave is occupied with well-designed oak seats accommodating 1400 worshippers. The plan is unusual in having double aisles on each side of the nave (other examples of this arrangement are Manchester Cathedral, St. Michael's, Coventry, and Kendal Ch., Westmoreland). The oldest part of the building is seen on the piers of the chancel arch, which show traces of early Norm. work. The next ch. erected was of E. E. character, c. 1270. Of this building remain the row of columns dividing the two N. aisles and the 3 easternmost arches supported by them, the easternmost arch of the N. nave arcade, and the piers of both transepts. Late in the 15th cent. the nave was lengthened by the 3 W. arches; the chancel was erected; the roofs were framed; the tower built; and the church assumed its present form. The visitor will notice the reredos, by Street,

richly coloured and gilt ; the new stone pulpit, decorated with coloured marbles ; a splendid niche on a pier of the N. arcade, probably once containing the statue of the patron saint ; the angels which occupy the place of capitals in the Perp. work ; and the number and size of the windows, and their stained glass. In the N. aisle of the nave is the coloured effigy, in the dress of his time, of Robert Gray, the founder of almshouses for "ten poore aged syngle women," in 1635, with a curious epitaph, worth reading, ending,—

"What he gave and how he gave it,
Ask the poor, and you shall have it."

There is a brass plate attached to one of the pillars to Joseph Alleine, the Nonconformist, once minister of this church, with the inscription, "Holocaustum et Deo et vobis."

St. James's Ch. has a tower (re-built 1870), which would be considered a very fine one were it not for the superiority of its neighbour. The ch. is long and low, and has no chancel arch. It contains a good font, with sculptures of the Crucifixion and the 12 Apostles, and a tablet to the late Col. Yea, killed at the head of his troops in the attack on the Redan, June 18, 1855, in the Crimean war. A little beyond the ch., on the opposite side of the street, is a very picturesque group of almshouses, with eaves of great projection, supported on brackets.

St. John's, in Park Street (Sir G. G. Scott, *Arch.*), is a beautiful church, well worthy of a visit. It was built at the expense of Rev. F. J. Smith, the present patron and incumbent. It has a tall and well-proportioned tower and spire.

At the N. side of St. James's Street stands a part of the domestic buildings of the *Priory*, now used as a barn and stables on the Priory Farm, the only remnant of the Augustinian

Priory, founded 1127 by Wm. Giffard, and augmented by his successor in the see of Winchester, Henry of Blois, brother to King Stephen. The gable end exhibits some windows of E. Dec. date, and a solitary boss, on which are carved 3 swords, conjoined in point, the insignia of the house of Paulet. These are not in their original place, having been inserted when the building was used as a chapel for French prisoners. The jambs still remaining show that a gate-house was once situated here.

Near the schools, opened in 1868, in Church Square, adjoining St. Mary's Church, have been built a very pretty set of *almshouses* for 13 old men, founded by Richard Huish in 1615.

The historic memories of Taunton *Castle*, and the unusual interest of its construction, did not avail to preserve its buildings from a period of dilapidation, decay, and neglect, from which they have been happily rescued by the Somerset Archaeological Society, by which body they have been purchased and appropriated as their museum. The *Castle Green* is entered by a fine archway, the E. gateway of the outer ward, now incorporated with Clarke's Hotel. King Ina's stronghold (see *ante*) doubtless had more than one successor before the reign of Henry I., when Bp. Giffard is recorded to have erected a castle here. "In Taunton Castle," writes Mr. G. T. Clark, "we have a combination of earthworks dating from the 8th cent. ; walls and keep the work of the early part of the 12th ; and towers and gatehouses towards the end of the 13th or early in the 14th cent. Bishop Langton executed some additions in 1490, and placed his arms outside the inner gatehouse, 1496. Bishop Horne made some further repairs here in 1557. On passing through the lofty archway, where the portcullis groove may be noticed,

we find ourselves on the *Castle Green*, or outer ward, having on the right the southern front of the inner ward, terminating at each end in a drum tower, of which only the western one remains perfect. In the centre of the front is the gatehouse of the inner ward, a rectangular tower of Edwardian date, with Bp. Langton's Perp. additions. Over the portal is an escutcheon of Henry VII. supported by a griffin and a wivern, and that of the bishop with the date 1495, and the motto "Laus tibi Christe. T. Langton, Winton." Above are seen the holes for the drawbridge chains. On entering the inner ward we have at the N.W. angle the *Keep*, a rectangular tower, originally Norm. with Edwardian additions. From the keep tower, running eastward, the *Hall* forms the northern side of the court. It was recast by Bp. Horne in 1577 on the site of the original Norm. hall of the Castle. The external wall to the N. still shows the flat pilaster buttresses of that period, and the weather-mould of the roof, springing from a much lower elevation but of a considerably steeper pitch, may be seen on the wall of the keep tower. It was formerly used for the assizes, and is a fine room, 150 ft. by 30 ft., but modernised and spoilt. It has been improved in appearance since the Somerset Archæological Society have employed it as their place of meetings, and for the reception of their collections, but internally it still presents but little air of antiquity. The castle was dismantled at the Restoration, and the moat filled up. The whole underwent a well-intentioned but disastrous repair at the end of the last centy. by the munificence of Sir Benj. Hammet, many years M.P. for Taunton.

The *Town Hall* and *Market House*, built 1772, occupy a central position in a large open triangular market-place called the *Parade*. From this point the main streets di-

verge, the High Street terminating at an iron fence which encloses the grounds of *Wilton House*, the seat of the Kinglakes.

The *Taunton Literary Institution* occupies an Ionic building on the W. side of the Parade. In the large room is arranged the *Museum of the Som. Archæol. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* It includes the Williams geological collection, containing a store of palæozoic fossils from W. Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall; the fossils of other formations; saurians from the lias quarries at Street; and the bones of animals from the limestone caverns, including those collected by Mr. W. Beard, at Banwell. Here also are preserved tessellated pavements found at East Coker and at Pitney; the reliquary from Kewstoke Ch., supposed to contain Becket's blood (see *ante*, p. 374); a collection of rubbings from brasses; various mining implements of the Romans, found in old shafts on the Quantock Hills; the "large dish of Persian ware" set before Lord Feversham when quartered in the mansion of the Bridges at Weston Zeyland, mentioned by Macaulay (*H. E.* i. 604), and the telescope with which the approach of the king's troops were discovered from the tower of Chedzoy Ch.; and the drawings, presented to the county by the late Mr. Pigott, of the English abbatial and collegiate seals by *Howlett*, and of the Somersetshire churches, monastic and castellated ruins, ancient and modern mansions, crosses, town-halls, &c., by the Messrs. *Buckler*, 1827-47. The *Corn Market* occupies a Grecian-Doric building, N. of the Literary Institution.

The *Shire Hall*, in Upper High Street, is a handsome edifice, in the Perp. style (Moffat, *Arch.*). It was opened for the transaction of assize and county legal business in 1858. The entrance-hall displays a series of fine marble busts of Somersetshire worthies, including the cele-

brated *Admiral Blake*; *Locke*, the philosopher; *Capt. Speke*, the African discoverer; *Pym*; *Bp. Ken*; *Dr. Thomas Young*, the investigator of the laws of light, and decipherer of hieroglyphics; and *Dr. Henry Byam*, the Somersetshire loyalist; *Lord Taunton*; *Charles Summers*, the sculptor, b. at Charlton, 1827, d. 1878,—erected chiefly through the exertions of R. A. Kinglake, Esq.

The *High Cross* was re-erected 1867, at the expense of Dr. Kinglake, in memory of his parents (Giles, *Arch.*).

The vicinity of Taunton abounds in educational establishments. There is a Church of England Proprietary College at Mountlands; the Wesleyans have a college on the Trull Road, and the Congregationalists have a handsome building devoted to the same purpose near the rly. stat.

Taunton was once famous for its manufacture of serges, which were largely exported to Spain. Fuller describes them as “eminent in their kind, being a fashionable wearing, as lighter than cloth, but thicker than many other stuffs.”

It still has a small manufacture of silk, also of gloves and collars, and of agricultural implements. It is also a great agricultural centre, being seated in a district remarkable for fertility. “The Vale of Taunton,” says old Fuller, “is so fruitful, to use their own phrase, with the *zun* and *zoil* alone, that it needs no manuring. The peasantry therein are as rude as rich, and so highly conceited of their own country that they conceive it a disparagement to be born in any other place.” Hence the Somersetshire proverb — “Ich was bore at Taunton Dean; where should I be bore else?”

“What ear so empty is that hath not heard the sound

Of Taunton's fruitful Dean, not matched by any ground?”

Drayton.

The vale is particularly famous for its apples and cider.

Taunton was the native place of *Samuel Daniel*, b. 1562, a poet and historian; *Henry Grove*, b. 1683, a Nonconforming divine, tutor of the Dissenting Academy at this town, and a contributor to the ‘Spectator;’ *Alleine*, author of the ‘Alarm to the Unconverted,’ was minister of St. M. Magdalene; he died 1668, at the early age of 35, after his liberation from a long confinement in Ilchester gaol. His epitaph simply records:—

“Here Mr. Joseph Allein lies,
To God and you a sacrifice.”

A. W. Kinglake, Esq., author of ‘Eothen,’ and the historian of the Crimean War, was also born at Taunton.

[The principal seats in the neighbourhood of Taunton are *Hatch Court*, the property of the Gore Langtons; *Pyrland*, formerly the seat of the Yeas, now of Arthur Malet, Esq.; *Norton Manor*, C. Noel Welman, Esq.; *Hestercombe* (rebuilt, nestling in a picturesque dell on the S. flank of the Quantocks, long the manor of the De Meryets, passed by marriage to the Warres at the end of the 14th cent. A two-handed sword, stated to have been taken from King John of France at the battle of Poitiers by the father of the first possessor of Hestercombe, John de Warre, is still preserved. It bears the inscription, “*Engladium Johannis Galliae, R.*” From the Warres it passed by marriage to the Bampfylde. The buttresses of the Hall and some Elizabethan windows are the only relics of the old mansion; the igneous rock protrudes here); and *Heatherton Park*, Col. Adair; *Walford*, R. K. Meade King, Esq.

Trull, 2 m. S.W., has a small Perp. Ch., with W. tower of earlier date, and S. porch, which deserves to be visited for the abundance of rich

and unaltered woodwork, showing the closing struggle between the Gothic and Renaissance styles. The whole is heavily rich, without grace but without coarseness. The pulpit is marvellously rich, and has figures of St. John, and the 4 Latin Fathers in elaborate niches. The rood-screen and loft are perfect and singularly gorgeous. The bench-ends are much varied, and demand careful study. One bears the inscription, "Simon Warman, maker of this worke, A.^d. 1560, John Waye, Clarke here." The E. and S. windows of the chancel contain some painted glass of remarkable excellence, and quite untampered with. In the E. window are the Crucifixion, the B. V. Mary, and St. John; in the S., St. Michael, St. George and St. Margaret, each vanquishing their respective animal.

At *N. Curry*, 6 m. E. of Taunton, a curious Christmas feast, now extinct, is said to have been held from the time of King John, by whom the gift of the manor to the Dean and Chapter of Wells by Richard I. was confirmed. An account of the customs observed on the occasion is inscribed on a marble tablet in the vestry-room of the church. The dinner used to take place at the Reeve's house, and among the dishes was a large mince-pie ornamented with an effigy of King John. Two candles, weighing a pound each, were lighted, and until they are burned out the company had a right to sit drinking ale. The *Ch.* is a very fine structure of the 14th cent., largely recast in the 15th, cruciform, with a low central octagonal tower, and a very good chancel. The N. door is Norm. The rides and drives in this vicinity are most attractive.]

[A pleasant walk or drive of about 3 m. N. of Taunton leads to the beautiful ch. of

Kingston. It has a fan-tracery groined S. porch, one of the finest of west country towers, with nume-

rous carved niches in the walls, buttresses adorned with pinnacles, and a light parapet of open work. The pillars of the nave are Trans. A considerable portion of E. E. work remains, but the whole church has been recast in Perp. times, and the chancel has been almost entirely rebuilt. In the S. aisle is a fine Dec. altar-tomb of the existing family of Warre of Hestercombe, covered with a magnificent slab of Devon fossil marble. The carved bench-ends seats, dated 1522, are of great beauty. Beyond the village a walk of 2 to 3 m. leads up the wooded head of the valley to a summit overlooking the Bristol Channel. The valley of Kingston is celebrated, even in W. Somerset, for its cider. It was the custom till within the last few years for rustics on Christmas Eve to go to every orchard and "sing to the apple-trees" to make them abundantly fruitful; expecting in return money, or, what they liked better, cider. The only scrap of their song recoverable is:

"We wish you right good luck and jolly well sail." (Wassail.)

A tree called the "*Kingston black apple*" produces here the best cider fruit.

The *Quantock Hills* form a heathy range extending from Taunton northward to the sea, at an elevation of from 1000 to 1100 ft., rising to 1270 ft. in Will's Neck, the highest point. They are steep on the W. side, but on the E. the declivities are more gradual, descending into winding, romantic valleys—such as those of the *Seven Wells* and the *Hunter's Combe*, favourite scenes of Wordsworth and Coleridge, when they resided in their younger days at Stowey and Alfoxden (Rte. 32). The chain is mainly composed of the Devonian or grauwacke slate, which is islanded, as it were, in the new red sandstone forming the vales which surround it.

An excursion may be made to *Crow-*

combe (pictures) and to the summit of *Will's Neck*, or to the *Wellington Column* on the Blackdown Hills.]

Starting again by the rly., we proceed up the course of the Tone towards the Blackdown Hills.

165½ m. *Norton Fitzwarren* Stat.

[From this place the Devon and Somerset line branches off by Milverton and Dulverton to Barnstaple; also the West Somerset by Williton and Dunster to Minehead (see Rtes. 31, 33).]

At *Norton Fitzwarren* (2½ m., on the road to Milverton) is a fine earthwork on the hill above the church. It is of 13 acres, and formed by a ditch with an external and internal rampart. According to the local legend it was once the haunt of an enormous serpent, which for a long time devastated the surrounding country, and whose ravages are supposed to be portrayed in the carving of the rood-screen of the adjoining church. It was probably a British town, occupied by the Romans, long anterior to the existence of Taunton. According to the old local rhyme:—

“When Taunton was a furzy down,
Norton was a walled town.”

Norton Fitzwarren Ch. is chiefly of a late 14th-cent. date, the chancel containing traces of earlier work. The tower has a singular triple set of gurgyles. The S.W. corner of the churchyard was a favourite burying-place for gipsies, who were brought from all parts of the country. The very fine rood-screen has a carving of two dragons and a plough in the centre.

166½ m. rt. *Hill-Farrance Ch.* has a low tower, c. 1420, a good piscina, credence, and sedilia, temp. Edward I., and fine oak benches. The little ch. of *Oak*, 1 m. further to W., is not unworthy of a visit.

167½ m. l. *Bradford Ch.*, prettily placed on a wooded bank overlook-

ing the Tone, which is here crossed by a good mediæval bridge of 2 arches, deserves notice. It has W. Norm. piers, an E. E. chancel arch, a font on a Norman base, and an effigy of a hip-belted knight, temp. Richard II. *West Buckland*, 2 m. further S., has a *Ch.* with Norman features. The nave is Perp. The chancel arch is curiously corbelled into the massy piers. The font is Norman.

168 m. l. we pass *Heatherton Park* (Col. Adair), and directly afterwards, on the rt., *Nynehead* (W. A. Sanford, Esq.), where we gain a distant view of an isolated knoll crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous landmark, 8 m. N.

170 m. *Wellington* Stat., near *Nynehead*, and ½ m. N. of

WELLINGTON (*Inns*: *Squirrel, King's Arms*; Pop. 4360). This market-town is seated on a gentle elevation in a country of hill and dale, at the foot of the Blackdowns, which are here crowned by the *Wellington Monument*. It is built chiefly of red brick, and has a handsome town-hall and church.

The *Ch.* is Perp., with the exception of the chancel, which is E. E., with an E. window of 3 lancets, with quatrefoils above. The tower is a fine one, of the local type, with a stair turret running up the centre of the S. side, dividing the belfry windows. The nave is lofty, with light arcades, and a high clerestory. There is an elegant canopied piscina in the chancel, and a piece of sculpture on the N. side, which may have been connected with an Easter sepulchre. There is a fine tomb to Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Elizabeth, and a benefactor to this town. He is represented by the side of his lady in the judge's dress of the period (1607).

Wellington had the honour of giving title to the conqueror of the Peninsula and Waterloo, the victory

of Talavera raising Arthur Wellesley to the peerage as Viscount Wellington, of Wellington, in the county of Somerset. In the Rebellion the inhabitants of this town exhibited such activity on the side of the Parliament that *Wellington Roundheads* were long afterwards proverbial.

The town has a manufacture of woollens, the mills being worked by the neighbouring river and the water of the canal.

The *Wellington Monument* (the key is kept at a house nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the monument) is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S., on the lofty height (900 ft. above the sea) which rises from the town, and where annually a busy fair is held on the 15th of June. The monument is a triangular stone tower, erected by a county subscription, to commemorate the victories of the Great Duke. The original intention was to crown it with a bronze statue of the Great Duke. The site commands an extensive prospect. A roadway descends the S. side of the hill to the village of *Hemyock*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., seated on a trout-stream, in a true Devonshire valley, and containing some remains of a Norman castle.]

[*Cothay Manor-house*, in a secluded situation, 4 m. from Wellington Stat., in the parish of Kittesford, is a very interesting building, with its mediæval hall, ruined gateway, and out-buildings.

Greenham Manor Farm, 2 m. beyond, has a handsome porch of the date of Edward III., and other remains of the domestic architecture of that period.]

[The hilly road, or rather lane, from hence to Milverton (5 m.) is one of the prettiest in Somersetshire. It gradually ascends towards Exmoor, between tangled hedges through a thickly wooded country. In 1 m. from Wellington it passes on rt. *Nynehead Court* (W. A. Sanford, Esq.),

an old-fashioned house, built at many different times, but with little of the old work remaining.

Nynehead Ch. is of early Perp. date, but much rebuilt, containing a fine screen, and good monuments to the Clerkes of Chipley. A former rector, Rev. J. Sanford, adorned the walls with specimens of Robbia and other Italian ware.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Chipley Park*, the site of an old hall, in which Locke wrote a part of his 'Essay on the Human Understanding,' first sketched out at Oxford, and finished in Holland. His manuscript, written in a very neat hand, and a large number of his unpublished letters, are now preserved at Nynehead by Mr. Sanford, the owner of Chipley.

Scythe-stones are procured from quarries on the Blackdown hills. They are concretions of the greensand, which are found in layers associated with organic remains. *Robin Hood's Butts* is the name by which some huge heaps of flints, evidently funereal, on Blackdown, are known.]

Leaving Wellington by the rly., we look our last at the pleasant face of Somerset, as in little more than 3 m., we rush through a tunnel through *Whiteball Hill* into the adjoining county. (*Hdbk. for Devon.*)

ROUTE 22.

YATTON, BY AXBRIDGE AND CHEDDAR, TO WELLS AND GLASTONBURY.

(*Branch Railway.*)

This line leaves the Bristol and Exeter Rly. at Yatton Junct., and joins the Somerset and Dorset Rly. at Wells, a distance of $17\frac{3}{4}$ m. The rly., leaving Yatton, crosses the Yeo near

1½ m. *Congresbury* Stat. (pronounced Coombsbury), where the ch. and ancient vicarage-house call for attention. The *Ch.* has a fine stone spire, perhaps the best in the county, forming a very pleasing object in the surrounding country. The arcades are E. E., but not alike, those on the N. being somewhat the later, verging to Dec. There is a fine wood roof and good rood-screen. The font is E. E. The peal of bells is remarkably fine. The parsonage was built by the executors of Bp. Beckington, c. 1465. The porch displays a curious imitation of E. E. toothed work, with the arms of the prelate. There is a good 15th-cent. cross in the centre of the village, and the remains of another of the 14th cent. in the churchyard. *Woodlands* is the seat of Capt. W. Long.

Congresbury is asserted in the *Glastonbury Chronicle* to have been an episcopal see founded as early as A.D. 167 (the existence of which, however, according to Mr. Haddan, rests on very questionable evidence), transferred c. A.D. 767 by Daniel to Wells. According to an unhistorical tradition preserved by Capgrave, it derives its name from St. Cungar, the son of an emperor of the East, who, it is said, to avoid a marriage which his father sought to force on him, fled to Britain, and, finding in the dreary marshes of the Yeo the perfect solitude he desired, founded a hermitage and oratory here, A.D. 711. The land round his cell was given him by King Ina, and he established a college here with 12 canons, where, according to Capgrave, he taught “*Angligenis et Wallensibus*,” and was called “*Docwinni, a docendo*.” St. Cungar (so runs the tale) went a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where he died, but his body was brought back and buried at Congresbury.

[*Wrington*, 2 m. E., 4 m. S.E. of Yatton Stat. (which takes its name

from the stream which runs through it, now known as the Yeo, but spoken of as the “*Wring*” in the ancient terriers of Glastonbury), is famous for the tower of its *Ch.*, perhaps the finest of all the towers for which Somersetshire is so celebrated. The lofty nave (too short for its height) with its clustered pillars and foliated capitals; the shafts, carried up and supporting angels with shields; the fine Perp. windows and clerestory, present a whole rarely equalled in parish churches. The Dec. chancel is small and inferior, with a 5-light E. window of unusual design. At the end of the nave is a curious bell-cot. The tower is one of grand simplicity, with beautiful details and fine masonry, having a stone groined roof, and a remarkably noble W. window. It is 140 ft. high, and is crowned with 16 pinnacles. The tenor of the peal is one of the grandest bells in the county, weighing 2 tons. In the church is a tablet to Hannah More, who, with her sisters, lies buried in the churchyard. She lived at *Barley Wood*, a very pretty cottage, built by her in 1800 (now belongs to W. H. Harford, Esq.). *West Hay* is the residence of the well-known archæologist, W. Long, Esq. *Wrington* is distinguished as the birthplace of *John Locke*, the philosopher, author of the ‘*Essay on Human Understanding*,’ born 1632, in a house still standing near the church. His birth here was accidental, his mother having been taken in labour while worshipping in the ch. His father had a small landed property in Stanton Drew parish. He became a captain in the Parliamentary army, and was killed at Bristol, 1645. The entry of Locke’s baptism is in the parish register. The Rev. W. Leaves, composer of the air to Lady Ann Lindsay’s ballad of “*Auld Robin Gray*,” was rector of Wrington. The little town is beautifully situated under the hill of *Cleeve Combe*.

1 m., in the vale of the Yeo, is *Cowslip Green*, where Hannah More resided before she removed to Barley Wood.]

Crossing the wide marshy meadows intersected by rhines, we reach

133 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Banwell* Stat. The town (*Inns*: Ship; Bull) lies 3 m. to the l., in a pretty situation under Banwell Hill. This limestone height has been long known for its *bone-caves*, in which have been found the remains of the bear, with those of the buffalo, deer, wolf, fox, and other animals. The bones of these creatures were embedded in a floor of hardened mud, and are supposed to have been collected by beasts of prey, which made the cavern their den. There are 2 chambers, of which the larger is about 60 ft. in breadth and 40 ft. in height, the floor sloping downward 150 ft., when it terminates in a petrification called the *Bishop's Chair*.

[Other bone-caves may be found at *Hutton*, 3 m. W.; at *Uphill*, 5 m. W., almost under the church; at *Sandford*, 2 m. N.E.; and at *Loxton*, 3 m. S. (where the quaint old *Church*, Norman and E. E., with a square tower on the N. side, stands on an elevated site commanding a view of Crook's Peak. In the porch is a remarkable squint. The pulpit is carved from one block of stone. There is a 15th-century mutilated cross in the churchyard). A fine collection of these bones, formed by a local geologist, Mr. Beard, has been purchased by subscription, and removed to the Museum at Taunton.] The greater part of Banwell Hill, including the bone-caves, is the property of Capt. Law, who has a cottage here, built in 1827. The *Tower* was erected by his grandfather, the late Bishop of Bath and Wells. To the S. are seen the loftier heights of *Wavering Down* and *Crook's Peak*, which with Banwell Hill and Brean Down form the western points of the Mendips. Im-

mediately E. is *Park Hill*, with remains of a small camp on its summit.

According to Leland an abbey existed at Banwell in the time of Alfred, of which his biographer Asser was abbot. It was given by William the Conqueror to the see of Wells. It was sold by Bp. Barlow to Protector Somerset, but restored by Mary. A manor-house was built by Bp. Beckington, of which some remains exist in *Banwell Court*. The chapel is turned into a cider cellar. *Tower Head House* was built by Bp. Godwyn in 1584 as a summer residence. The front bears the Bp.'s arms and a canting motto, "Godwyn. Wyn God, wyn all."

Banwell Church is, for its nave and aisles, one of the most thoroughly beautiful of its class to be seen. "The proportions of the aisles and clerestory are absolutely perfect. The turrets at the E. end of the nave are very noble."—*E. A. F.* The belfry is richly groined. The chancel screen has fan-tracery vaulting. There are a fine stone pulpit and carved oak seats. The chancel is inferior. The E. window has ancient stained glass, and there are several modern painted windows. The font is E. E. There is a curious brass to a physician, John Martock, 1503, robed as an ecclesiastic in cope and surplice, with cassock under; and a female effigy, Eliz. Blandon, 1554, with a wired headdress. The tower is a very fine one, with rich pinnacles and parapets.

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Sandford* Stat., at the foot of *Sandford Hill*, on the N. side of which lies the village of *Churchill*. *Churchill Court*, now a farmhouse, close to the *Ch.*, was the seat of a family of the same name, from a cadet of which the famous Duke of Marlborough sprang. The *Ch.* is of the usual local type, with a plain tower and groined belfry. The monuments are interesting, including one to the lady of Sir John Latch, d. 1644, who is represented in a buff

coat, boots, and spurs, gazing on his wife in a shroud. The quaint inscription closes thus:—

"The risen Christ doth us assurance give,
He'll raise this grave, and we with Him
shall live:
He rich in grace, though poor in stable
cratch,
So have ye here her laid up, Sarah Latch."

There is a good brass to Ralph Jenyns and his wife, 1572, and the recumbent effigy of one of the Churchills and his lady.

[From Churchill the old high road from Bristol to Bridgwater runs along the northern flank of the Mendips. This remarkable range of hills consists of mountain limestone, raised by volcanic action from the bed of an ancient sea, dipping N. and S. on each side of 3 or 4 parallel axes of elevation, composed of old red sandstone, the limestone beds being placed like sheets of lead on the boarded roof of a ch. Mines of lead and zinc were worked here by the Romans—whose refuse heaps, subjected to improved smelting processes, yield a large quantity of the former metal—and are so still, but scantily. The range of hills is 20 m. long, and from 3 to 6 m. wide, and from 200 to more than 1000 ft. high. The fractures and dislocations attending this violent upheaval are to be seen at Cheddar, Brockley, Goblin-Combe, and the gorge of Avon. A few vents discharging igneous rock are to be seen at Hestercombe, on the N.W. shoulder of Broadfield Down, above Brockley Combe, and near Uphill, in the rly. cutting.]

Immediately above Churchill is the remarkable encampment, or, rather, fortified town, of *Dolbury*, crowning a spur of the hill, overhanging a ravine which divides it from Sandford Hill. It is a British camp, 540 yds. long by 220 yds. broad, enclosing an irregular area of 20 acres, protected by a rampart and a fosse. A square camp, probably of Roman construction, lies within

the area. The former is a continuous mound of unhewn limestone, forming an uncemented wall like that at Worlebury. A local rhyme, as old as Leland's days, makes it the depository of hid treasure—

"If Dolbury digged were,
Of gold should be the share."

1 m. rt. *Langford Court* (Evan Llewellyn, Esq.), originally a hunting seat of the Capels, Earls of Essex. It was modernised by Dr. Whalley, who sold it, 1804, to the Rt. Hon. J. Hiley Addington, brother of Lord Sidmouth. Beyond it, on the slope of the Mendips, is *Mendip Lodge* (B. Somers, Esq.), built by Dr. Whalley, the friend and correspondent of Hannah More, a beautiful place, deeply bosomed in wood. The grounds contain 52 grottoes, one for every week in the year, and the terrace walks command enchanting views. Mrs. Siddons was a frequent visitor here.

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E. from Churchill is *Burrington*, the Ch. of which has a low tower with spirelet, and good windows and arches in the nave. It contains monuments to the Rt. Hon. Hiley Addington, and to Mrs. Jackson, shipwrecked off Dunkirk, with an epitaph by Hannah More. From the village a romantic ravine, *Burrington Combe*, leads to *Black Down* and *Beacon Batch*, 1067 ft. above the sea. The little road in this valley is margined by fine turf, and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. above the village is the mouth of a cavern, with a sanded floor slanting steeply downward. This is *Burrington Cavern*, which, when first discovered, exhibited about 50 human skeletons, resting among the weapons which they had used when living. The bones of horses and of sheep, and the jaw of a fox, found in the hardened mud, showed that this cavern had also been the resort of wild animals. On either side of the hollow are great ribs of mountain limestone, well displaying the inclination of the

strata; and above, on the hill, a quadrangular camp with a rampart of loose stones, apparently of Roman date, called *Burrington Ham*. In Burrington Combe a bone cavern, known as *Whitcombe's Hole*, was examined in 1863, and found to contain the remains of the ox, red deer, wolf, fox, goat, badger, &c., and fragments of a rude urn. *Plumbley's Den*, in the same combe, has 2 large chambers, united by a low passage, filled with bones, among which the most remarkable was the skull of the *Bos longifrons*.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Blagdon*, between which and Burrington is *Rickford Combe*, a romantic dell, dressed with hanging woods, and traversed by a clear streamlet. *Blagdon Ch.* was rebuilt, all but the tower, in 1822. Meric Casaubon, and Langhorne, the translator of 'Plutarch's Lives,' were incumbents here. A pig of lead, bearing the name of Britannicus, A.D. 44–48, the earliest example of Roman metallurgy discovered in Britain, was found near Blagdon, 1853.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. is *Ubley*, with a small *Ch.* with W. tower and spire, and 7 m. *Compton Martin*. The *Ch.* has curious Norm. work, but the tower, which is of very ornate character, and several windows are Perp. The arcades are Norm., except one pointed arch on the S., and the Norm. clerestory is preserved on the N. The chancel has fine Norm. groining, the ribs enriched with chevron moulding, and some trefoil-headed lancet windows. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is *West Harptree* (Rte. 27).]

Returning to the rly., the line ascends by easy gradients to

$5\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Woodborough* Stat. On the hill to the l. is *Sidcot*, where is a large Quakers' School, and on the slope of the swelling green hills, fringed with trees on the rt., *Winscombe Ch.*, with its fine grey pinnaled tower. The ch. was rebuilt by Bp. Ralph de Salopia, d. 1362, and must rank among the earliest

triumphs of the new Perp. style. In a window in the ch. there are some figures of fine 15th-cent. white glass.

[1 m. l. the villages of *Shipham* and *Rowberrow*, on the slopes of Black Down, are inhabited chiefly by miners, or *grooviers*, as they are here termed, conspicuous for their yellow-brown clothes. The greater number of the lead and calamine mines are situated in these parishes, but the amount of ore now raised is very inconsiderable. *Rowberrow* lies in a secluded hollow between the folds of the Mendips, commanding a fine view of the Channel, with a rivulet running through a deep winding dell. It is the centre of the Mendip mining district. The *Ch.*, perched on the brink of the deep dell, and the manor-house, hard by, form a picturesque group. A curious piece of Saxon lacertine knotwork is built into the outside wall of the porch.]

The line here encounters *Shutshelve Hill*, which it pierces by a tunnel driven through hard shale and mountain limestone, on emerging from which it descends to

8 m. *Axbridge* Stat., on the hill-side above the town, commanding a fine view of the broad rich valley of the Axe, with varied hills in the distance.

AXBRIDGE (*Inn*: Lamb; Pop. 799) is a very ancient little town, still possessing a corporation, and holding charters renewed by different kings from Edward the Confessor to James I. The *Ch.* is a fine cruciform building, with good central tower and pierced parapets. The nave has no clerestory, and the chancel, as is common in Somersetshire churches, is much inferior to the rest of the building. In 1879 it received a partial restoration, and refitting, which it greatly needed, at the hands of Mr. Sedding. A curious wooden roof, adorned with large pendants, bears

the date 1636. There are several monuments to the Prowse family, an altar cloth, the work, for 7 years, of Abigail Prowse, and a merchant's brass to Roger Harper and wife, 1493. In the town are some good examples of 14th and 15th-century houses.

Early peas and potatoes are raised in large quantities in this sheltered vicinity for the Bristol and London markets. It is the central depot of the agricultural produce of the Cheddar Valley.

Immediately after leaving Axbridge, l. is *St. Michael's House*, a Hospital for Incurables, erected by the widow of the late munificent Mr. Gibbs of Tyntesfield, as a memorial to her husband.

Shutshelve Hill is continued W. in the ridge called *Wavering Down*, ending in the pyramidal eminence of *Crook's Peak*, commanding a very fine view. The ascent from the S. side is very easy along the edge of the combe. Below lies *Compton Bishop*. The *Ch.* has a Trans.-Norm. trefoiled doorway, a stone pulpit and an E. E. double piscina, and a costly monument to J. Prowse, 1688. In the churchyard is a cross of early 14th-cent. work. The sides of the hill are pierced with caverns.

Christon, in the valley to the N.W. of Crook Peak, has a Norm. *Ch.*, with a low tower between the nave and chancel, supported by chevroned arches, and a good Norm. S. doorway.

$9\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Cheddar Stat.* (*Inns*: Bath Arms; Cliff Hotel), famous for the neighbouring *Cheddar Cliffs* and *Caverns*: at a distance of 2 m. is the summit of *Black Down*, the highest hill on the Mendips.

The rich grass-farms of this neighbourhood have been famous from an early period for the *Cheddar cheeses*. Camden bears witness to their excellence in his time, and speaks of their "prodigious size, requiring more than one man's strength to set them on the table." "The worst

fault," says old Fuller, "of Cheddar cheese is that they are so few and so dear: hardly to be met with, save at some rich man's table." In 1841 a monster cheese was manufactured at W. Pennard as a present to the Queen, every farmer in the neighbourhood contributing to it a day's milk. A show of a similar kind may be often seen in this neighbourhood, where, says Mr. Acland, "a full cheese-room, exhibited by a Marsh yeoman after his rent has been paid, and all made straight, is a pleasant sight, as it is one which the farmers have always great pleasure in showing to a visitor."

St. Dunstan has left his name in these parts, which abounds in stories of him. One of the most remarkable is of his having saved King Edmund, when hunting in the Mendips, from being carried over Cheddar Cliff by his horse, which led to the King's reconciliation to the Abp.

The *Ch.* is a good example of the usual Somersetshire type, rather coarsely worked, with a stately tower and groined belfry, and a statue of its patron saint, St. Andrew, in a niche on the W. front. In the interior are a sculptured stone pulpit, rich screens and ceiling of oak, and a brass to the memory of Sir Thomas de Cheddar, c. 1442, and another of inferior style to his widow Isabel, c. 1460. The original altar-slab, bearing two sets of consecration crosses, serves as the base of the present communion-table. The De Cheddars were a wealthy family, who represented Somersetshire in Parliament for many years. Their manor-house stood by the roadside at the entrance to Axbridge, and a part of it still remains in a farmhouse.

The hexagonal *Market-cross* was restored in 1834 by the late Marquis of Bath.

The village extends to the entrance of the ravine, where the rocks hang grandly over the pass. Below them is a pretty sheet of water, once re-

flecting the rugged scene on its limpid surface, but now rendered turbid and poisonous by the lead-mines. On its bank is Mr. Cox's *Hotel*, and opposite

Cox's Cheddar Cavern, accidentally discovered in 1837. 1s. a head is the charge for admission. The cave is narrow and of small size, but quite a fairy world. In every part it is crowded by fantastic figures, the insensible growth of ages, still nourished by the dripping water, which whimsically resemble the various forms named by the guide. It is lighted with gas.

Gough's Stalactite Cavern, opposite the Lion rock, is a more recent discovery, containing some curious stalactites. Admission, 1s. a head.

Other caverns of larger size are shown, but they are mere gloomy vaults in the hill-side. One may be explored for about 300 ft. Another, situated $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the entrance of the cliffs, l. of the road, and some 200 ft. above it, has excited much interest by the discovery in the mud breccia of its floor of human skulls and bones, together with those of wild animals. No proof, according to Sir Charles Lyell, "that they were coeval, but only that they were of high antiquity, though not referable to a geological era." The mouth of the cavern is a vertical fissure.

A carriage-road, made in 1801, leads through the pass of the *Cheddar Cliffs*. The chasm is about a mile in length, and presents numerous fine studies of rocks and caverns. [As the scenery becomes less wild as you ascend, it is advisable to reverse the usual mode of seeing the cliffs by scaling the hill on the E. side, and entering the ravine at its upper part, descending upon the grander and more romantic portions of the defile.] The entrance is more grand than might be expected from the character of the hills, the mountain limestone rising abruptly in towering precipices, whilst from a

cavern at their foot the Cheddar water rushes in a torrent. Within the portal of the pass its stony jaws appear to close upon the little road, which, margined by turf, winds from side to side, and opens at every turn a fresh picture of huge and wildly grouped rocks. The finest portion of the scenery is included in the first $\frac{1}{2}$ m., in which a cliff rises vertically on the rt., and directly from the path of the spectator, to an elevation of 429 ft. This grand and beautiful wall is decked by festoons of ivy, and scored on the surface by a network of fissures, from which spring the mountain ash, the yew-tree, and various shrubs and plants. As the road proceeds, its barriers gradually open out, and the dark blue precipices are succeeded by slopes of turf. This is a habitat of *Polypodium Robertianum*, and of the pretty *Dianthus Cæsius* or *Cheddar pink*, now almost exterminated by excursionists, together with the other beautiful ferns and plants which once gave an additional beauty and interest to the ravine.

[*Mines of lead and calamine* (carbonate of zinc) have been worked on the Mendip Hills from the time of the Belgæ, principally in the parishes of Rowberrow, Shipham, and East Harptree. The visitor to Cheddar is within reach of one of them, called the *Mendip Lead Mine*, a walk of about 2 m. [Let him turn l. through the first gate in the Cheddar Cliffs, and pursue his way up the rocky bottom to a wood, where he will observe a gate on the rt. A path leads from this gate along another wild hollow. Near the further end of the wood a stream plunges into a *swallet-hole*, to emerge again to the daylight at Cheddar. At the further extremity of the wood is "the Lower Farm," through which the road passes, by *Charter House*, to a four-cross road, where the traveller's route is indicated by a guide-post. The chimneys of the

mine will then be in sight.] The mountain limestone abounds in vertical cracks or fissures, and by these its numerous subterranean waters are fed. The summit of *Black Down* rises at a short distance to the N. It is a heathy eminence, crowned by a mark of the Sappers and Miners, and commands a most extensive and beautiful view. It is elevated 1100 ft. above the sea, and is said to be the part of Somersetshire seen from Windsor Castle.

The *Mendip Hills* extend in a N.W. and S.E. direction about 12 m., the width of the chain varying from 3 to 6 m. On the S.E. its beds of mountain limestone dip below the oolite, in which position they are seen in the many romantic dales between Shepton and Frome. The nucleus of the range consists of old red sandstone, the flanks of mountain limestone. Hence the resemblance of this district to the highlands of Derbyshire, a similar rock presenting similar phenomena in both counties, such as veins of lead, caverns, and subterranean streams. In early times the moors of Mendip were attached to the crown as a royal forest, in which Saxon and Norman kings diverted themselves by hunting, and here, as mentioned above, King Edmund had a narrow escape of his life. The summit, along which ran a Roman road from Old Sarum to the Bristol Channel, has a comparatively level surface, attaining its greatest elevation in Black Down, but here and there the traveller will find an unexpected chasm, and the declivities are on all sides abrupt, and scored by rocky hollows. The heights of Mendip are covered with barrows, among which are many of the bowl-shape. The obscure village of *Priddy* lies high and bleak in a small hollow of the downs. Round Priddy pool lie immense heaps of slag, the refuse of the ancient mineral works of the former inhabitants of the district which was un-

successfully attempted to be reworked by a company a few years back. The *Ch.* is of some size and dignity of character. 2 m. N.E. the Roman road, running from Uphill to Old Sarum, may be traced with great distinctness to the little solitary public-house on Harptree Hill, known as the *Castle of Comfort*, near which is a curious depression about 80 ft. deep, called the *Devil's Punch-bowl*, and on the summit of the hills, towards Priddy, 4 large British circles, and 2 groups of barrows, one of 9, the other of 8 mounds.

At *Charter House* on Mendip (Rte. 23, p. 405), not far from the lead works, is a Roman station with a perfect amphitheatre; and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S. towards the Cheddar Cliffs another, partly filled up.]

The rly. from Cheddar to Wells proceeds along the foot of the Mendips, commanding a wide prospect over the level country to the rt. The numerous outlying knolls are pretty features in the scenery. The line gradually ascends to

12 m. *Draycott Stat.*, a little to the S. of which is

Rodney Stoke, a very pretty spot, the hills rising from it with great boldness and beauty, particularly a peak called *Stoke Knoll*. The *Ch.*, standing on a high bank above the line, l., deserves a visit. It contains a screen given by Sir E. Rodney, 1624, and many monuments of the Rodney family, one of the oldest of the Somersetshire families, though now extinct in the direct line.

14 m. *Lodge Hill Stat* for *Westbury*. At the intersection of the roads is an ancient *cross*, raised aloft on a pile of steps. The *Ch.* has a Norm. tower. The S. aisle is of the time of Edward IV. The Rodney chapel contains a monument to George Rodney, 1586. From Westbury the line ascends to *Easton*, where there is a long cutting through conglomerate, and thence to 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Wells* (Rte. 20).

ROUTE 23.

FROME TO YEOVIL, BY BRUTON
AND CASTLE CARY.

(*Weymouth Branch of Great Western
Railway.*)

115½ m. from Paddington

FROME (*Inns: Crown; George :* Pop. of Parly. borough, 9376). Frome (more correctly Froome Selwood) is a large and populous market-town and Parliamentary borough, with several flourishing manufactories, employing a very large number of hands. The staple manufacture is that of woollen cloth, which is carried on most extensively, and there are some card-mills, fulling-mills, and dye-works. In the vicinity there are large manufactories of edge-tools, and extensive iron foundries. Frome is a town of considerable antiquity. It owes its origin to a monastery built before 705 by St. Aldhelm. The inmates were probably dispersed by the wars with the Danes, but the church continued till the time of William of Malmesbury. The Saxon king Edred died at Frome in 955, and was buried at Winchester. The church was afterwards appropriated to the abbey of Cirencester. In former days it was surrounded by *Selwood Forest* (which in the last century afforded shelter to a body of marauders and coiners, who were a terror to the neighbouring parishes), of which the woods adjoining Longleat are a remnant. The country in the neighbourhood is still rich in trees, and extremely

pretty. It is principally laid out in dairy-farms, which produce excellent butter.

The town is built on a steep declivity, and the streets are laid out to suit the conformation of the ground, with very little attention to regularity. The main thoroughfares branch into paved lanes, which again divide and contract as they mount the hill, like the tributaries of a stream. The town is built of stone, and its general aspect is picturesque. It contains many Jacobean houses. In the centre of the market-place stands a *Market Cross* and fountain, erected by the Hon. and Rev. Rich. Boyle. The tourist will find much to interest him here in the fine and magnificently restored *Parish Church*, the various *manufactories*, and the pretty ravine of *Vallis*. It is also a good centre for excursions. *Longleat* is 4 m. S.E. (Rte. 11), *Nunney Castle*, 2½ m. S.W., and the neighbourhood abounds with pretty villages and old churches.

The *Parish Church* of St. John Baptist has been restored and in part rebuilt, at large cost and with much magnificence, by the present vicar, the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett. Originally there was a nave of 3 bays besides the bay formed by the tower, all of the late 14th or early 15th century. At a later period 4 more bays were added to the W. in a peculiar local type. Remains of a still earlier ch. appear in the chancel, where little bits of Norman work are scattered about. The tower, crowned by a spire, stands at the E. end of the S. aisle. The Lady-chapel, on the N. side, forms a quasi-transept, and there are three chantry chapels, dedicated to St. Andrew, St. John Evangelist, and St. Nicholas. In one the organ is now placed, and the chapel of S. Nicholas is now the Baptistery. The nave is of 8 bays, of 2 dates, the piers standing on large blocks as high as the seats. All the windows have been filled from time

to time with stained glass of various degrees of excellence, and afford a good opportunity for studying the progress which has been made in this art during the last few years. The Church was re-opened on St. John Baptist's Day, 1866.

In approaching from the N., the visitor will be struck with the vigour and effectiveness of the *Calvary Steps*, or *Stations of the Cross*, a series of carvings, consisting of scenes from our Lord's Passion, which occupy the steep ascent from the entrance of the churchyard to the N. porch. Passing on his way to the E., without entering the church, let him turn left, towards the E. wall of the chancel (noticing as he passes a beautiful figure of St. Catherine on the N. wall of the church), and stay a little while at the tomb of Bp. Ken (see *post*). Passing on round the church, let him notice also the sculpture over the S. door, representing Peter and John going up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, and the W. front, with the fine figures of the 4 Evangelists. On entering, he will not fail to be impressed with the general effect of richness and solemnity. On each side of the W. door are life-size statues of St. Alban, St. Aldhelm, St. Andrew, and St. George (too large for their place); if he then turn to the left, up the N. aisle, he will come to the baptistery, the chapel of St. Nicholas, late Perp. The windows represent the Commission to the Apostles, and incidents in the life of St. Nicholas. The font is a portion of the old font restored. On the pavement are the 7 chief virtues and the 7 deadly sins. Immediately adjoining is the very beautiful Lady-chapel, Dec., rebuilt 1337, with richly coloured windows, representing scenes in the life of the Virgin Mary. In the arcades of the nave are medallions, the work of Forsyth. N. they represent the miracles of our Lord: S. the Parables, and over the chancel arch is a

[*Wilts, Dorset, &c.*, 1882.]

beautiful fresco by Clayton and Bell, representing the Adoration of the Lamb.

The pulpit, with its sculptures of 8 famous preachers, Noah, Moses, Elijah, St. John the Baptist, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Chrysostom, and St. Ambrose, deserves notice, together with the rich and beautiful chancel, the Ken memorial window, the ringing-floor under the tower on the S., the roof of the nave, and the many windows in the aisle—chiefly memorials. Monumental tablets of another class remain here and there in the church, among them one to the daughters of a former Lord Cork, 2 graceful figures by Westmacott. The chancel-floor should be noticed for its variety of marbles. The reredos is of Carrara marble, by Forsyth. There is a peal of 8 musical bells, and a clock which chimes at the 4 canonical hours.

On the outside, under the E. wall of the chancel, is the singular and interesting monument of the brave and holy Bishop Ken—

“That dared with royal power to cope,
In peaceful faith persisting:
A braver Becket—who could hope
To conquer unresisting.”

Ken, who was one of the 7 bishops committed to the Tower by James II., 1688, for refusing to read the Declaration of Indulgence, was deprived in 1689 for refusing to take the oath of allegiance to William III., and passed his time in retirement at Longleat, under the protection of Lord Weymouth, in 1703. Ken d. at Longleat in 1711, in his 74th year, and, according to his desire, was buried “in the churchyard of the nearest parish within his diocese, under the E. window of the chancel, just at sunrise.” It is presumed that Lord Weymouth gave directions for the somewhat singular monument beneath which he is interred, which is a grating of iron bars bent into the form of a coffin, across

which are laid a mitre and pastoral staff—

A basket-work where bars are bent—
Iron in place of osier;
And shapes above that represent
A mitre and a crosier.”

R. Monckton Milnes.
(Lord Houghton.)

The whole is now protected by a small open-worked stone shrine.

* *Joseph Glanvil*, “the first English writer who had thrown scepticism into a definite form,” the author of ‘The Vanity of Dogmatising,’ as well as of the once famous ‘Sadducismus triumphatus,’ or assertion of the reality of witchcraft, was *Vicar of Frome*, afterwards of *Bath*.

John Foster, the Baptist minister, author of ‘Essays on Decision of Character,’ &c., had the charge of the congregation in Sheppard’s Barton, 1804–1808. He did not love the place, which he calls “a large and surpassingly ugly town. . . . I should nauseate the place if I had been habituated to it for a century.”

The *cloth-mills* are scattered about the neighbourhood of the town. Mr. Tucker’s factory is now the most flourishing, situated near Wall-bridge at the eastern extremity of the town. Mr. Singer’s factory for mediæval brass work, situated at a small eminence, called Conigar, and his silver-smith’s work in the market-place, will repay a visit.

The walk to Vallis Bottom is a delightful one. Leaving your inn, you will turn l. at the bridge down the course of the river, which is stained of a dark blue colour by the dyers. A path across small grassy fields, well provided with hedgerow timber, and commanding a good general view of Frome, leads in 1 m. to Spring Gardens, and further on to the picturesque village of Mells, by *Vallis* (1 m. W. of Spring Gardens, and the same distance N.W. of Frome, l. of the road to Radstock). It is a romantic little glen, with

richly wooded sides, where the geologist will notice the oolite beds on the flat top of the mountain limestone, with beds of much earlier conglomerate between the two. Here quiet reigns undisturbed, for even the streamlets cease their prattle, and creep in silence, forming pictures in glassy pools. Among other rare plants the botanist will find the *Dipsacus pilosus*. The rock is in some places quarried, and exhibits its strata of various colours, dipping at a high angle. *Vallis* was the seat of the Leversedges, the ancient lords of the manor, and now belongs to the Earl of Cork. The Hall (temp. Hen. VII.) still remains with its roof almost perfect, and all its arrangements can be traced. A very charming walk may be taken up the course of this little stream. It divides at *Elm*, one branch descending N.W. from *Mells*, another S.W. from the woods of *Asham* and *Nunney*. Either route will afford much pleasure to the lover of the picturesque. At *Elm* the rocks of the ravine, overhung with ivy and brushwood, rise to a height of 150 ft. The *Ch.* has a tower, with a saddle-back roof, and will repay inspection. *Mells*, 3½ m. W. from Frome Stat., is celebrated for its manufactory of scythes, which are supposed to owe their excellent temper in part to the water, which is impregnated with lime from the mountain limestone. At *Nunney* another edge-tool mill is worked by Mr. Fussell. *Mells* belonged to Glasstonbury, and at the Dissolution was purchased by John Horner, to whose family the estate still belongs; a cottage of the 15th cent. may still be seen near the ch. *Mells Park* (F. J. F. Horner, Esq.) is delightfully situated in a finely wooded demesne. Charles I. occupied Mells House July 17, 1643, its owner, Sir John Horner, being Parliamentary High Sheriff of the county, and his estate under sequestration. On the 19th he left for Bruton. Of the Horners

of Mells was that favourite of the nursery, *Little Jack Horner*, who

"Sat in a corner,
Eating a Christmas pie."

The plum which the "good boy" found is said to have been 10,000*l*. The *Ch.*, Perp., beautiful both in form and detail, according to Leland was built "yn tyme of mynde by the hole parochie. One Garlande, a draper of London, gave freely to the buylding of the vestiarie, a fine and curious peece of work. A gentleman of the parochie made a fair chapel to the N. of the church." It has a noble Perp. tower and sanctus bell-cot, and contains a plain Norm. font. Near the *Ch.* is the stately late Perp. *Manor House*. The ravine here is known as *Wadbury Vale*. On either side are remains of earthworks, *Wadbury Camp*, N., and *Tedbury*, S. On the N. flank of Newbury Hill, overlooking another affluent of the stream, is *Newbury*, another entrenchment. The stream has its source in *Emborrow Pond*, or *Lechmere Water*, on the N.E. slope of Mendip.

2 m. S.W., 800 ft. above the sea, is the bleakly-placed village of *Leigh-upon-Mendip*, where the small *Ch.* has a very elaborate Perp. tower crowned with 20 pinnacles, and contains a large Norm. font.

From *Vallis* an equally pretty walk may be taken up another branch of the stream, which has its rise at E. Cranmore, by *Whatley*, 2 m., where there is a good *Ch.*, with tower and lofty spire; Norm. doors to S. porch, and N. and S. chapels; in the S. chapel is an altar-tomb to one of the Servington family with recumbent effigy (at *Whatley House*, J. H. Shore, Esq., a Roman villa, with a very perfect pavement, of a design more than usually good, and remains of the bath, have been discovered); to *Nunney*, where there is another very pretty dell running up in the direction of Bruton.

[*Nunney Castle* is a very picturesque ruin, in a romantic position. It was begun, temp. Edw. III., A.D. 1373, by Sir John Delamere, and finished by his nephews in the following reign. The walls are nearly perfect, and present an excellent example of a fortified house of the period of transition from Dec. to Perp., surrounded by a moat. The plan is oblong, 61 ft. by 25 ft., with a cylindrical tower of very bold projection at each corner. The central part of the house was divided into 4 stories by wooden floors. The chief staircase was in the northern tower. The hall was on the first floor. The tower at the S. corner contains on the third story a very perfect example of a domestic chapel. The stone slab of the altar is seen projecting below the 2-light Perp. window looking due E., with a canopied piscina on the S. side. In the Great Rebellion, this castle was garrisoned for the king, but was taken in Fairfax's campaign, Sept. 8, 1645, about the same time as Basing House, which belonged to the same owner, Pawlet, Marquis of Winchester. The marks of the siege are still to be seen on the walls. *Nunney Ch.* is cruciform, extensively altered, temp. Henry VII., with an E. E. chancel, containing a Norm. font and some good effigies of the Delameres and Praters which deserve notice. The beautiful ancient cross of the 13th cent., removed a few years since by the parochial authorities, has been re-erected in the grounds of *Whatley House*. The hall of a manor-house near the *Ch.*, used as a lumber-room (called the *Nunnery*), preserves a fine roof, music gallery, and screen. *Nunney* is 3 m. from the *Witham Stat.*]

[*Radstock*, 8 m. N.W. (Rte. 25), is the centre of an extensive coal-field. Some of the pits are of considerable depth, employing horses underground.]

[*Marston Ch.*, 3 m. S.W., is modern. *Marston House*, built by Edmund Earl of Cork and Orrery, d. 1798, has been almost entirely rebuilt by the present earl. It is a stately Italian structure, containing many good paintings, including portraits of the Boyles: Rich., 1st Earl of Cork, Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, and Robt. Boyle, the natural philosopher; and the first orrery ever constructed, about 30 inches in diameter, named from its inventor, Charles, 4th Earl of Orrery, 1676–1731; an interesting collection of original letters of Pope, Swift, Bolingbroke, the Duke of Marlborough, &c., Charles I.'s Prayer-book with MS. notes, Robert Boyle's air-pump, and many other curiosities.]

[*Lullington*, a pretty secluded village, 2½ m. N., deserves notice for its small church, chiefly of good Trans. work, consisting of chancel, and nave without aisles, divided by a central tower; a large S. transept and porch, restored 1862. The tower is Perp., of the Somersetshire type above, supported on Trans.-Norm. arches, with very curious capitals. The most curious feature is the N. doorway, richly decorated with twisted columns and with bird's beak and other mouldings. Within the crown of the arch is a rude sculpture of 2 animals fighting for a cross, and above it a figure of our Lord as Judge. There is a singular tub-shaped Norm. font, with an inscription, "Hoc fontis sacro pereunt delicta lavacro." The chancel is Dec. c. 1320.

The church of *Beckington*, 2½ m. N.E., retains its Norm. tower, the rest having been rebuilt in Perp. times. It contains a monument to the poet *Daniel*, d. 1619, who succeeded Spenser as poet-laureate, placed there by the Countess of Dorset, and some good brasses. There are fine effigies of John Seymour, in plate-armour, and his lady, 1485, and of

another female. The village is rich in old houses. *Beckington Castle* (Mr. Meade King) contains a rich collection of majolica and other objects of art. In the parish is said to have been born *Bp. Beckington*, whose name is so closely connected with the architecture of Wells. 1 m. from Beckington is the village of *Road*, where is Road Hill House, the scene of the Constance Kent tragedy in 1861.]

[The principal seats in the neighbourhood of Frome are *Longleat*, Marquis of Bath; *Witham Park*, an estate belonging to *Bradley Park*, Duke of Somerset; *Marston House*, Earl of Cork and Orrery; *Mells Park*, J. F. Horner, Esq.; *Babington House*, Capt. Wyndham Knatchbull, *Hardington Park*, of which the house is in ruins. *Standerwick Court*, and *Berkeley House*, belonging to Sir Charles Mordaunt, E. H. Dickinson, Esq. *Ammerdown*, 7 m. N.W., in Kilmersdon parish, Lord Hylton, is a modern mansion, designed by J. Wyatt, in a park 4 m. in circumference. (See p. 424.) *Orchardleigh*, 2 m. N., Rev. W. Duckworth, Esq., whose father built a new house, and laid out the grounds. The old mansion, formerly the seat of the Champneys, remains in the hollow. The small *Ch.*, which has a font and some windows of interest, stands in the park. On *Murtry Hill* in the park of Orchardleigh are some so-called Druidical stones forming a *Cromlech*, or sepulchral chamber; the two uprights being of inferior oolite and the capstone a slab of millstone grit. Orchardleigh Pond is a fine sheet of water.

Farleigh Castle, 6 m. N., and Norton St. Philip's, 5 m. N., and Charter House Hinton (Rte. 4), may all be visited from Frome.]

Proceeding on our route, the rly. leaves the woods of *Longleat* to the l., and runs parallel with the escarpment of the great Wiltshire chalk

range, crowned near Bruton by *Alfred's Tower*, on the estate of *Stourhead* (Rte. 12). The section from Frome to Yeovil was first opened Sept. 1856.

120½ m. *Witham* Stat., the Junction of the E. Somerset line, which runs rt. to Shepton Mallet and Wells, 14 m. (Rte. 22).

Witham was the site of the first Carthusian establishment in England, founded about 1175 by Henry II. The 3rd prior, and virtual founder, was the celebrated Saint Hugh, one of the "Black Letter" saints, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, who erected the buildings, and presided over the house for eleven years, till reluctantly removed to Lincoln. His life, edited by the Rev. J. F. Dimock, was written by one of his chaplains, a monk of Witham. At the Dissolution, the property was bestowed on the Hopton family, who lived here. Lord Hopton, the distinguished cavalier general, was of this family, and resided at Witham, which was more than once fortified and garrisoned for the king. In 1644 Lord Hopton placed as many as 500 horse about it. July 18 in that year Prince Charles dined with Lord Hopton at Witham. It was besieged in September, 1644, and the garrison surrendered on terms.

The *Ch.*, which was probably the "Minor Ecclesia" of the priory, had been much disfigured by so-called improvements, but has more recently received a conscientious restoration at the hands of Mr. W. White, who has removed the ugly tower erected in 1828, and lengthened the church by a bay. A new bell-gable, lofty and massive, carries the three old bells. It is vaulted with stone, the ribs springing from corbels, and has an apsidal E. end, in advanced Transition-Norm.—"just the small plain ch. we should expect at a Carthusian monastery, where the inmates were few, and grandeur and ornament was sternly

forbidden."—*J. F. Dimock*. There is a square trefoil-headed double piscina to the S. of the apse and a rood-loft staircase to the N. There are only very few traces of the monastic buildings remaining.

A cell, belonging to the friary, with lands adjoining, stood on the top of the Mendips, between Cheddar and Blagdon. It is still called *Charter-House on Mendip* (see Rte. 22, p. 399), and is considered as belonging to the parish of Witham, though many miles distant.

The line runs through rich woods to

126 m. *BRUTON* Stat. (*Inns*: Blue Bell; Wellington). *Cole* Stat., on the Somerset & Dorset line, is 1 m. W. (Rte. 20). This little town (Pop. 2232) is prettily placed in a valley among a cluster of hills, about 4 m. from the wooded heights of Stourhead and Alfred's Tower. It derives its name from the Brue, which, rising in the neighbourhood, flows through it in a shallow stream, turning the wheels of a horsehair factory. It is a place of some antiquity, and was formerly the seat of a brotherhood of Black Canons, whose priory was built by William de Mohun of Dunster, 1142, on the ruins of a Benedictine monastery, said to have been founded here in very early times by Ethelmar, an Earl of Cornwall. The abbey was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Maurice Berkeley, his standard-bearer, in 1546, and he made it his residence. In Leland's time Bruton was "much occupied with the making of cloth." Charles I. was here in 1641, and heard a sermon from Bp. Lake, and visited it again with Prince Charles in July 1644, when the king spent two nights at Bruton, and was quartered at the Abbey house, "a faire and noble habitation of his loyal servant, Sir C. Berkeley." The attempt to induce the rustics of the place to join

the royal standard was a complete failure. General Goring made Bruton his head-quarters in 1645, but evacuated it on Cromwell's approach.

In Bruton register is the following poetic effusion of thankfulness for deliverance from the clubmen in 1642:—

"All praise and thanks to God still give,
For our deliverance Matthias eve;
By his great power we put to flight
Our foes, the raging Batcombites;
Who came to plunder, burn, and slay,
And quite consume our town this day."

A pig of lead bearing a triumphal inscription of Antoninus and Verus was found at Bruton early in the last centy.

The Great Hall of the Abbey House was burnt 1763, and the remainder pulled down, 1786. The family of the Lords Berkeley of Stratton (from whom Bruton Street, Stratton Street, and Berkeley Square, London, take their names) having died out, the property was purchased by Sir H. Hoare in 1776.

The Prior's house exhibits the arms and badge of the Mohuns, and John Hinton, prior in 1448.

The *Ch.* has considerable merit. It has been well restored by the late Mr. Slater and Mr. R. H. Carpenter, and deserves careful attention. The ceilings are remarkably fine. The tower at the W. end is a noble example of a plainish Somersetshire type, with triple belfry windows filled with pierced stone work, and a quatrefoiled battlement, and groined within. The church is singular from having a second tower surmounting the N. porch. The chancel is debased. Beneath it is a vaulted crypt with octagonal pillars containing coffins of the Berkeleys. The walls of the nave are surmounted by an open-worked parapet. The clerestory windows have rich niches between them within, filled with new statues at the recent restoration, and the roofs are handsomely panelled in oak. There are some monuments, particularly one to Sir

Maurice Berkeley and his 2 wives, and another to Chief Justice Fitz-James. An ancient tomb in the churchyard is attributed to William Gilbert, abbot of Bruton, whose arms, with the initials W. G., may be seen over the N. door.

The *vicarage*, adjoining the church, was formed 1822 by Sir Richard Colt Hoare out of the ruins of the abbey. On a grassy hill above it, once the park of that abbey, stands a roofless tower, commanding an excellent view of Bruton and its neighbourhood. *Creech Hill*, crowned by a small camp, is seen to the N.W.

The *Free Grammar-School*, founded by Richard FitzJames, Bishop of London, 1520, and his nephew, Sir J. FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice, suppressed by Henry VIII., and refounded by Edw. VI., derives its revenue from the Abbey lands. It possesses an excellent library of modern literature and a chemical laboratory.

The *Hospital*, founded by Hugh Sexey in 1638 (who rose from a stable-boy to be auditor to Queen Elizabeth) for 14 old men and 14 old women (since enlarged), is a quaint building forming a small quadrangle, including hall and chapel, and presenting a good example of the late Gothic of Somersetshire (compare, post, *Wyke Champflower, Low Ham*). Between the hospital and the *Ch.* is an ancient and very picturesque one-arched bridge.

The road to *Wincanton*, 4 m., is a pretty drive, passing on rt. *Redlynch Park*, a seat of the Earl of Ilchester; and rt., 1 m. from Bruton, *Discove*, a romantic hamlet, where a Roman pavement was found in 1711. This road runs out of Bruton through a stone archway, embowered in elms, whose branches embrace across the road.

Redlynch was the seat of the ancient family of Draycot. Eleanor Draycott, the heiress, married, early in the 15th cent., James FitzJames,

and brought the Redlynch estate to that family. Three sons were the issue of this marriage, of whom Richard, Bishop of London (1506–22) and Lord Almoner to Henry VII., was the youngest. The eldest son, Sir John FitzJames, was the father of Sir John FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, d. 1642, the chief founder of Bruton Grammar School (Rte 16, p. 242). In 1670 Sir Stephen Fox possessed the property (b. at Farley, near Salisbury, 1627; d. 1716) (Rte. 8); a faithful servant of Charles I. and II. He lived in the reigns of 6 Sovereigns, and his character was that of "the greatest favourite of the prince, the chiefest minister of state, and the wealthiest subject of the realm." He was the projector of the great military Hospital at Chelsea, and contributed largely to that undertaking. The present mansion was built by him 1672. George III. was a frequent visitor here.

[The pictures at *Stourhead*, the seat of Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., and the *gardens* may be seen (Rte. 12). *Alfred's Tower*, commanding a view over an immense extent of country, is accessible at all times, the key being kept at the adjoining lodge. It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Bruton to Alfred's Tower, $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the house, but $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile may be saved by crossing the meadows called *Bruton Park*. S. of Alfred's Tower is the earthwork of *Jack's Castle*, on the summit of a hill, and at the foot of this height the remains, in a farmhouse and its buildings, of the Augustinian priory of *Stavordale*, founded by one of the Lovells in the reign of Henry III. (Rte. 20, p. 272).]

[*Batcombe*, 3 m. N. has a good Perp. *Ch.* The tower is very fine, and is a good example of the earlier and more severe Somersetshire tower, with the same truncated appearance as the W. towers of Wells. On its W. face is a niche containing a figure of our Lord with censuring

angels. The S. aisle was built in 1629 by James Bisse, a member of the family, to whom the manor passed at the Dissolution, from Glastonbury Abbey. This aisle, especially the S. porch, is a curious specimen of the struggle of the Gothic and Classical styles. The Jacobean altarpieces are curious. There are several quaint and interesting monuments to the Bisse family. A small external crucifix at the E. end of the nave deserves notice. Richard Bernard, a Puritan divine, author of a quaint allegorised work, entitled "The Isle of Man, or Legal Proceedings in Man's hert against Sin," died rector here in 1641.

1 m. W. of Bruton, *Wyke Champflower* has a chapel built by H. Southworth, 1624, worth notice as an example of Jacobean Gothic. The manor-house stands hard by, and both are overshadowed with fine elms. Here the rly. to Yeovil goes under the Somerset and Dorset line between Wimborne and Highbridge (Rte. 20).

On the road to Castle Cary the bold eminence of *Creech Hill* will be observed on the rt.

129 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. CASTLE CARY Stat., $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of the town. An omnibus runs 3 times a day from the Britannia Inn to Evercreech Junc. (*Inns*: George; Britannia; Pop. 2060). This is another small town deriving interest from the beauty of the surrounding country, but in itself possessing little to delay the traveller. It is situated on the escarpment of the inferior oolite, partly in the valley partly on the slope, its principal street running up a hollow between 2 hills. There are factories here for flax spinning and weaving hair for the seats of chairs, and a fortnightly market.

Of the *Castle*, which once stood above the source of the *Cary*, the name alone remains, with some grassy mounds indicating its site. The last

mention of it occurs in the reign of Stephen, when it played a part in the civil contests of that period.

Castle Cary was in early times the seat of the Luvells, descendants of Robert Lord of Breherval, one of the companions of the Conqueror, whose son Ascelin, d. 1120, was surnamed *Lupus*, from the fierceness of his disposition. His son, William de Percheval, was called *Lupellus*, softened into Lupel or Luvell, and lastly Level.

This William de Percheval joined the Empress Maud, and strengthened his castle at Cary. He ravaged all the adjacent country, sweeping it of the provisions needed by Stephen's army at Bristol, who on raising the siege of Bristol attacked Castle Cary so fiercely that the garrison surrendered in 1138. It was held again by W. de Percheval in 1153 against Stephen's adherent Henry de Tracy.

The *Ch.*, perched upon a hillock, forms a pretty picture. It is a graceful Perp. building, which in 1856 received a new tower and spire, and was in great part rebuilt by Mr. Ferrey. It contains a font dating from Henry VI., and a richly carved pulpit, bearing statues of the Apostles. Opposite this church is

Castle Cary Park on a prettily broken hill-side. From its summit, which is called *Lodge Hill*, both seas are said to be visible, but, at any rate, the longest sight may be satisfied with the view. It embraces the vales of Bridgwater and Taunton, the Quantock and Blackdown hills, the last extending to Exmoor; towards the N.W. Brent Knoll and Glastonbury Tor; N.E. the conical top of Creech Hill; and E. the far-seen tower of Stourton. The hill was probably the chase or park of the barons who once dwelt here.

The *Market-house*, with a clock-tower, was built in 1855 (Penrose, *Arch.*).

Charles II., on his escape after the defeat at Worcester, arrived at Castle Cary, Sep. 16, 1651, disguised as Mrs. Jane Lane's groom, under the name of Wm. Jackson. He slept at the house now occupied by Mr. Bellringer, and went on next day to Trent. Within the village are the springs of the river *Cary*, which form a pond at its fountain-head, and in its course gives its name to Babcary, Lytes Cary, Cary Fitzpaine, &c.

[The road from this town to Wincanton, 6 m., is one of the prettiest in the county. Winding over the hills, it gives the traveller delicious peeps at distant vales and heights, and at certain points a variety of distances in connection with a rich foreground. At 1½ m. it passes on *l. Hadspen House* (Henry Hobhouse, Esq.), a grey old mansion beneath a wood, through which a walk is seen to climb. The entrenched height of *Cadbury* is a striking object from this road.]

[*Alford*, 2¼ m. W., has a very beautiful and well-restored *Ch.*; a specimen of the Perp. of Henry VI. The screens and bench-ends have rich carvings, and the windows good stained glass, some ancient. In the churchyard is a fine cross, late 13th cent. S. of the village is *Alford Well*, a mineral spring.]

[At *Yarlington*, 3 m. S. of Castle Cary, are some remains of the manor-house, and in the church an ancient and curiously sculptured font. Adjoining the village is *Yarlington Lodge* (T. E. Rogers, Esq.), and on the hill-top to the W. the earthworks of a British camp.]

The rly. passes rt. *North Barrow*, where the small *Ch.*, rebuilt 1860, retains some ancient portions, and *South Barrow*, and reaches

134 m. *Sparkford* Stat. Sparkford

Ch. was rebuilt 1824, but the chancel and tower arches were preserved.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is the entrenched height of

Cadbury, or the hill-fort. [*Cad*, or *Cath* (British), war, battle, and the A.-S. *byrig*, a fortified camp.] It is a conical summit on the escarpment of the oolite, abutting on the plain which extends to Ilchester, and encircled at the top by 4 deep ditches in concentric rings, and by as many bulky ramparts of earth and stone. The S. side is terraced with "lynchets." These formidable defences enclose an area of about 30 acres, in the centre of which is a moated mound or prætorium called *King Arthur's Palace*. *Cadbury* is mentioned in old records under the title of *Camelot*, probably derived from the Celtic *Kam*, crooked, applied to the windings of the river Camel which runs near, giving a name to the villages of Queen's Camel and W. Camel, and also to the river Camel and town of Camelford, in Cornwall, near King Arthur's Castle of Tintagel.

"Like Camelot what place was ever yet renowned,

Where as at Carlion he kept the table round?"—*Drayton*.

Many interesting relics have been found in this camp: round stones for slings, a silver horseshoe, and numerous coins, chiefly of Antoninus and Faustina, proving that this fortress was occupied by the Romans, whatever might have been its origin. This by common tradition is assigned to King Arthur, who, in the opinion of Camden, fought a battle with the Saxons near the spot. In the fourth ditch on the N. side is a spring called *King Arthur's Well*, said to possess many marvellous virtues, and sharing with the lonely "palace" on the top the reverence of the country people, who, indeed, imagine the whole hill to be haunted ground, and believe it to be hollow within and to be gradually sinking.

The village of *South Cadbury* lies in a narrow valley, under the N.E. side of the camp. The *Ch.*, standing very picturesquely immediately under the rampart, is a pleasing little building, well restored, with a modern chancel. The S. arcade is Trans. between E. E. and Dec., the Western respond being singularly banded. There is a curious niche in the rood turret staircase.

North Cadbury was formerly a possession of the De Moels, from whom it passed by marriage to the Botreaux, Hungerfords and Hastings. The *Ch.*, once collegiate, was built by Elizabeth, lady of William, last Lord Botreaux, c. 1427. The tower is of earlier date, built by John Ferroure, parson of the parish, c. 1394, and is hardly worthy of the ch. It is a very stately edifice, dedicated to St. Michael, all of one date, except the arcades, which are Dec. worked up again, and raised when the ch. was rebuilt. There are N. and S. porches, panelled round the doorway, groined in stone, with stair turret and parvises over. The chancel is very lofty and well proportioned, with a noble E. window filled with good glass by Clayton and Bell, flanked with niches exhibiting some original colouring. The chancel arch is of grand proportions. The oaken tiebeam roofs are excellent. Placed now under the tower are 2 altar-tombs; one bearing the effigies of Sir Wm. and Lady Eliz. Botreaux; the other commemorating Sir Francis Hastings and his wife, Lady Magdalene, 1596, in whose honour is an epitaph of 15 stanzas, in a plate against the wall. The oak seats bear the date 1538, and exhibit much curious carving which deserves attention. Whicheot, Provost of King's, was rector here 1643-50, and was succeeded by *Ralph Cudworth*, the author of the *Intellectual System*, d. 1688. Adjoining it is *Cadbury House* (Col. Bennett), originally the seat of the De Moels, passing by marriage

to the Botreaux, Hungerfords and Hastings, an Elizabethan gabled mansion, built by the 3rd Earl of Huntingdon about 1581. The *hall* is a fine room, 48 ft. by 22 ft., with a large bay window, filled with armorial bearings. The S. front is modern. It contains some Italian paintings, including a copy of Guido's *Aurora*, by Raffaele Mengs. The long range of stabling bears the date 1607.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Sparkford is *Compton-Pauncefoot*, a very well-kept and pretty little village. The *Ch.* is Perp., and has a low stone spire, a very unusual feature in this district. The S. porch has a rich door with niches. The windows contain much deeply-tinted modern Brussels glass, on the merits of which opinions may be allowed to differ.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of the village is *Compton Castle* (Hubert Husey Hunt, Esq.), a modern castellated mansion, with a fine sheet of water in front. Within, the octagonal hall and staircase have a fine effect.

3 m. E. *Blackford*. The little aisleless *Ch.*, Perp., has a low, ivy-clad pinnacled tower, and a Norm. S. door with enriched mouldings. The font is early Norm.

Hazeltrove House, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. of Sparkford Stat., seat of Rev. Arrundell St. John Mildmay, built 1730. Its park is remarkable for its enormous oaks. One, mentioned by Loudon, is 80 ft. in height, and has a trunk 30 ft. in circumference, at 4 ft. from the ground. S.W., 1 m., the village of

Queen's Camel, belonging in olden times to the De Burghs, noted for a sulphurous spring, which rises 1 m. to the W. of it. *Queen's Camel Ch.*, which was given by Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, in 1202, to Cleve Abbey, is quite worth a visit for its tall and stately tower and fine interior, which has a low Dec. arcade and Perp. windows and roof, a very rich screen surmounted by a rood-loft, a fine Perp. oaken pulpit, large

coarse sedilia, and a good piscina with a triple ogee canopy. The font is one of very remarkable design, with niches and statues at the angles. The Jacobean Mildmay pew deserves notice. There are monuments to the Mildmays, including one to Sir Humphrey, d. 1690, who was wounded at Newbury fight.

The line now enters a broad marshy vale, which sweeps past Ilchester to Langport, along the banks of the Yeo. It is bounded by an amphitheatre of hills. 1 m. W. is *West Camel*. During a recent restoration of the *ch.* a fragment of the shaft of a stone cross carved with interlacing serpents, of the type common in Ireland, was discovered.

$136\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Marston Stat.* The *Ch.* is small and plain, with a low square tower, and N. chantry containing a very elaborate niche for a statue. The E. window is a plain E.E. triplet. The N. wall of the chancel has one very early light, and some herringbone work. There is a good Norm. font. The clock is said to have been brought from Glastonbury Abbey. To the S.W. of the *Ch.* is a long Jacobean house, one room of which is decorated with coarse Scriptural paintings of the 17th cent. on canvas. In the fields to the S.E. of the *Ch.* is a moated enclosure, locally reputed to have been the site of an episcopal palace.

[1 m. E. of Marston is *Rimpton*, a manor of the See of Winchester from before the Conquest. The small, pretty, and well-restored *Ch.* deserves notice. The chancel is very early Dec., with an eastern triplet, and single lights in the side walls. The nave has its original benches, with very handsome carved ends, resembling those at N. Cadbury. The pulpit is Jacobean. The grandfather of the famous Dr. Sacheverell was incumbent here during the Commonwealth. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further E., just on the border of Dorsetshire, is the pretty village of *Sandford Orcas*,

with a very picturesque and well-restored Manor House, with old-fashioned gardens, bowling-green, turf steps and terraces (Hubert Hutchings, Esq.). The *Ch.* has been almost rebuilt, but retains Dec. windows, and an E. E. lancet in the chancel, a S. chantry with a richly-panelled roof, and a curious E. E. circular font. There is a singular monument to Wm. Knoyle, the former possessor of the manor (d. 1607), and his two wives. The manor derives its name of *Orcas* from the Norman family Orescuitz, who formerly held it. Bp. Godwin, the author of the 'Catalogue of the English Bishops,' and of the 'Man in the Moon,' d. 1633, was at one time rector.

The rly. passes left *Trent* (see *post*) and *Over Compton* (*Compton House*, John Goodden, Esq., a picturesque gabled mansion of modern Gothic. The *Ch.* contains monuments of the Gooddens. It has a good Perp. tower), and, running under *Babylon Hill*, reaches

14 m. *Pen Mill Station* for **YEOVIL**, where there is a good modern hotel.

[The joint station of S.-W. and Bristol and Exeter Rlys. is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. off, on the Sherborne road, at the foot of Summer Tree Hill. Yeovil is a centre of railway communication. The main line of the S.-W. Rly. from London to Exeter passes near it, as does the Weymouth branch of the G.W. Rly., by Maiden Newton and Dorchester. There is also a branch joining the Bristol and Exeter Railway at Durston, near Taunton.]

YEOVIL (*Inns*: Three Choughs; Mermaid; Pop. 8480) is a busy, handsome town, built of red brick and yellow Hamhill stone, and situated on a hill-side sloping to the Yeo, from which it derives its name. It is in a pretty country, and on the old coach-road from London to the West. Its chief manufacture is that

of kid gloves, which is extensively carried on here, about 80,000*l.* being annually paid to the workpeople. Gloves are made both in the town and in the neighbourhood, and sail-cloth at the villages of *E.*, *W.* and *Middle Chinnock*.

In July 1645 Yeovil was held by the King's forces, who were expelled by Fairfax and his men before the decisive victory of Langport.

The *Ch.* is a very noble edifice, cruciform in plan, with stately square tower, 90 ft. high at the W. end. The height of the side aisles and large size of the windows give it grace and lightness, and hence it has been called "the Lantern of the West." "It is," says Mr. Freeman, "one grand and harmonious whole, as truly the work of real artistic genius as Cologne, or Winchester, or St. Ouen's."

The nave is very lofty and of stately proportions, with wide side aisles, and a noble tower arch, and good dark cradle-roof. The S. porch is a fine composition. Under the chancel is a crypt, groined from a central pillar, used as a vestry, entered by a canopied doorway richly groined in the head. The windows contain rich modern stained glass—that in the tower to the memory of the Prince Consort. There is an ancient brass *Lectern*, the gift of one Martin Forester, bearing an inscription, violating all laws of grammar and prosody—

"Precibus nunc precor cernuis hinc eja
rogate,
Fratr Martinus Forester vita vigiletque
beate."

In the chancel is a bust of the Rev. Rob. Phelps, Vicar (d. 1855), by Westmacott. The *new schools* to the W. group well with the church.

Trinity Ch., Peter Street, was built 1843-6, after a design by B. Ferrey. It is in the E. E. style.

The *Town Hall*, above the Corn Exchange and Market, is an Ionic building, with a clock turret, erected 1849.

Some old houses deserve notice.

The *George Inn*, in Middle Street, is a good specimen of an old hostelry. It was formerly called the Three Cups. The *Castle Inn* is another ancient building.

A view of Yeovil from *Summerhouse Hill* will well repay a walk of 10 min. Proceed down Middle St., as far as South St., where the foot-bridge over the rly. will lead you to the foot of the hill. At the foot of the eminence runs the Bristol and Exeter Railway, and between it and the river, in rich park-like grounds, is *Newton House*, an Eliz. building, seat of the old family of Harbin.

Hendford (Fred. Greenham, Esq.) is a large modern mansion, surrounded with fine pleasure-grounds; *Pen House* (Miss Neal), is seated on an eminence in a beautiful garden. Other residences are — *Hendford Manor*, E. Newman, Esq.; *Aldon*, J. Batten, Esq.; *Hollands*, H. B. Batten, Esq.; *Kingston Manor*, T. Dampier, Esq.

Another view of the town, with a more extended landscape, may be obtained from the slope of *Babylon Hill*, about 1 m. on the road to Sherborne.

Coker Court, 3 m. S., is the residence of W. H. Helyar, Esq.

[A very charming excursion may be made (preferably on foot) to Preston, Brympton, Odcombe, Montacute, and Stoke-sub-Hamdon.

Leaving Yeovil at the N.W. angle, we reach in 1 m.

Preston Plucknett, the site of a grange of Bermondsey Abbey, still retaining in its buildings much to interest an antiquary, especially the remains of its Perp. hall, and groined porch. The *Ch.* is E. E.

Brympton d'Evercy, 3 m. W. of Yeovil, on the road to Montacute, is well worth a visit. From the parsonage a striking architectural group is seen lying in the hollow below, consisting of a large stately mansion,

a smaller house, and the *ch.*, all worthy of attentive study. The *Ch.*, originally a small cruciform aisleless Dec. building, has gone through many alterations. It has a singular bellcot, perched on the apex of the western gable, for which it is many sizes too large. The Geometrical window of the S. transept, the foliated arch connecting it with nave, and the S. door, the piscina in the N. trans., and stone chancel screen, all deserve notice. The Sydenhams have made this their burial-place since Edw. IV. In the churchyard are some interesting effigies, removed from the *ch.*, probably of the D'Evercys. There is a handsome modern monument to Jane Countess of Westmoreland, d. 1857. To the N. of the churchyard stands the *Chantry House*, built temp. Hen. VII., for 3 priests, which has a fine octagon staircase turret, and good ceilings within. The *Mansion House* (Hon. S. P. Fane) has a fine W. front, 130 ft. long, of good Perp. character. The N.W. portion is untouched, and has a splendid display of oriels, turrets, chimneys, and open battlements. The hall was modernised temp. Eliz. The S. or garden front was added by Inigo Jones. The rooms are large and lofty, and contain some good tapestry, and excellent portraits by *Lely* and other eminent masters. 2 m. S.W. of Yeovil, l. of the road to W. Coker, are some remains, in a farmhouse, of *Nash Court* well worth a visit.

A pretty upland walk, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Brympton, leads to *Odcombe*, from the churchyard of which village a most extensive view can be obtained of the surrounding country. *Tom Coryate*, who called himself "the Odcombian Legstretchers," born 1577, was the son of a rector of Odcombe. He was educated at Westminster School and Gloucester Hall, Oxford, and then became a member of the household of Henry Prince of Wales. He started on Whitsun Eve, May 14,

1608, on a pedestrian tour through Europe, and returned Oct. 3 of the same year, after walking 1975 miles. He started again for a visit to the East, Oct. 20, 1612, reached Jerusalem April 12, 1614, and, after visiting the Court of the Great Mogul, died at Surat, Dec. 1617. It is commonly asserted that he walked 900 m. in one pair of shoes, and on his return hung them up as curious relics in Odcombe Ch. He published his travels under the title, 'Crudities hastily gobbled up in 5 moneth traueells newly digested in the hungry air of Odcombe.' He is said to have introduced into England the use of *table-forks*. Odcombe was also the birthplace of *Humphrey Hody*, Reg. Prof. of Greek at Oxford, b. 1659. The tower of the Perp. Ch. stands between the nave and chancel.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. beyond Odcombe brings us by a pretty walk to Montacute.

Montacute House, seat of William Phelps, Esq. (4 m. on the road to S. Petherton). It is a very imposing and beautiful structure, built as is believed from the designs of John Thorpe between the years 1580 and 1601, by Sir Edward Phelps, Queen's Serjeant, afterwards Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons, whose father and ancestors had resided at Barrington Court, near Ilminster. It is in the form of an H, of Hamhill stone, and pierced on its E. front, 170 ft. long, by no less than 41 Tudor windows. The spaces between these windows on the second story are occupied by 8 statues, which, with a ninth in the centre gable, are asserted by Coryatt in his "Crudities" to represent "the nine worthies." The W. front is equally handsome, and has the addition of a gorgeous screen, which was brought from Clifton Maubank (Rte. 12, p. 183). The arms over the doorway also came from Clifton, those of Phelps excepted. The principal entrance bears the hospitable motto—

"Through this wide opening gate
None come too early, none return too late;"

the garden door, "And yours, my friends." The *hall* is a stately apartment with singing gallery and screen, and a decoration of bas-reliefs which represent the ancient punishment of "riding the Skimmington." The upper story of the house is almost entirely occupied by a single room, 185 ft. in length, and 21 ft. in breadth, now unfurnished. The drawing-room in the W. wing, reached by a winding stone staircase, has a rich panelled and fretted ceiling, and elaborate woodwork, especially a splendid doorcase, with the motto *Hoc Age*. The *gardens* are in the Italian style, with terraces and fountains, and domed alcoves. In the Civil War, 1645, Montacute was sacked by the Parliamentary forces, and was for a short time occupied by Cromwell.

The Ch. belongs principally to the Transition period between E. E. and Dec. The chancel arch is Norman; those of the S. transept E. E.; of the N. Dec.; the font and tower are Perp. On the N. side of the nave is a curious arabesque Norm. arch over a window now within the Ch. The font has a solid stone cover, which is raised by means of a pulley and chain. Here are the monuments of the Phelps: Sir David Phelps and Anne his wife, with effigies, 1420; Bridget Phelps, 1508; Sir T. Phelps and wife, 1598. The churchyard contains the shaft of a cross bearing the figure of a mitred ecclesiastic with the pastoral staff under a canopy. Adjoining are the remains of

Montacute Priory, supposed to have been founded for Cluniac monks by Wm. Earl of Moreton, temp. Henry I. They consist of some domestic buildings, and a very fine Perp. gateway, with an oriel and bold staircase-turret, more like the gateways of the older Oxford colleges than ordinary conventual entrances. The

E. front facing the meadows is singularly lovely. On one battlement are the arms of England, and on the other the letters T.C., probably the initials of Thomas Chard, the last prior. In the picturesque village of *Montacute*, almost "every cottage preserves its mullioned window, arched doorway, and chimney-shafts."

Above *Montacute* rise two pyramidal hills (whence *mons acutus*), clothed with wood to their summits. The E. is *St. Michael's*, on which in the days of *Tofig the Proud*,—a great Danish thane, "stallere" to *Canute*, at whose wedding feast with *Gytha Hardicanute* fell dead,—"the Holy Cross of *Waltham*" was discovered, after a search made in obedience to a thrice-repeated vision to a smith, who was also the sexton of the village, then known as *Lutegarsbury*. On digging, a large crucifix was discovered, which *Tofig* sent to his manor of *Waltham*, together with a smaller crucifix, and bell, and book. A castle was built on the summit by *William the Conqueror's* "insatiable brother" *Rob. of Mortain*, Earl of *Cornwall*, "at once a badge of the presence of the stranger, and an object of the bitterest hatred to the men of the Western lands, looking down like a vulture's nest on the surrounding hills and the rich valleys at its foot" (*E. A. F.*), which was vainly besieged by the men of *Somerset* and *Dorset* in 1069, who were defeated and put to flight by *Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances*. The castle has entirely perished, and a prospect-tower has been erected on its site [the key is kept at the Hall]. The summit of the hill commands a splendid view: W., to the hills below *Minehead* and *Blackdown*; N.E., over *Taunton*, the *Quantocks*, the *Channel*, *Welsh coast*; N., *Brent Knoll*, *Mendip*, *Glastonbury Tor*; E., *Creech*, and *Knoll*, *Alfred's Tower*; S., over *Dorset hills* to *Lambert's Castle*, near *Lyme*. Beyond these, again, are *Hamhill* and *Stoke Down*, forming a

promontory on the escarpment of the oolite, which strikes S. from this point towards *Crewkerne*. Some entrenchments confirm the statement that this eminence was fortified after the *Conquest*. Perhaps the want of water prevented its being continued as a stronghold.

The road to *Hamhill* passes the ch. of *E. Stoke*, or

Stoke-sub-Hamdon, than which "few churches, great or small, are more interesting"—*E. A. F.* It is a cruciform aisleless building, with a tower over the N. transept, of which the belfry stage is a beautiful specimen of E. E. masonry. The original fabric is Norm., with additions and insertions. The W. window is excellent Dec.; the E. window Perp.; the transepts and tower E. E. Some of the original windows, the doorways, and chancel arch remain little altered. On each side of the chancel is a low side window. On the tympanum of the N. door is a rude carving. In the centre is a tree with three birds in its branches; on the rt. of this is the Lamb with the cross. Beyond, on the l., an archer with his bow bent, on the rt. some animal, which is shown by the inscription underneath to be intended for a lion. This inscription, which is partly defaced, reads—

Sagittarius . . . v . . . leo

The N. porch has a good groined roof; the room over it, which is used as a vestry, has also a stone ribbed roof. Observe on the exterior a curious canopy in the angle between the W. wall of this porch and the N. wall of the nave. Note also the fine Norman corbel table on the outer walls of the chancel. The chancel-arch is of 3 very massive orders, flanked on either side by a large rude squint. There is a most curious double piscina across the S.E. angle of the chancel, and another similarly placed in the S. transept. The piscina for the rood-

loft altar remains to the S. The N. transept beneath the tower has groining springing from very curious corbels, E. E., and is divided from the Ch. by a Perp. stone screen. The font is Norm., tub-shaped, with the cable and zigzag moulding. Under a foliated canopy in the S. transept is an effigy ascribed to Matthew de Gournay, born at Stoke, d. 1406, aged 96. He fought at Cressy and Poitiers. To the N. of the chancel is a Jacobean effigy under a coarse Renaissance canopy. There is also an effigy of a priest of late 14th cent. work. Beyond Stoke Ch. we can turn up a road to the l., and visit

Hamdon or *Hamhill*, and its *Quarries*, for centuries celebrated for their building stone, an oolite, which, though coloured by iron, and containing more siliceous sand than the oolite of Bath, is little inferior to it in durability, and an equally beautiful material, as may be seen by the houses of Montacute and Sherborne Castle. The pits are scattered over the hill, which they pierce to a depth of about 100 ft., exhibiting a fawn-coloured rock, sometimes grained like wood. On the summit of Hamdon is a well-known British camp, the N.-E. portion of which was occupied and altered by the Romans. It is of about $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and about 3 m. in circumference. The remains of chariot-wheels have been found in it. At the N. angle is a hollow called "the Frying-pan," probably an amphitheatre, and near it a series of low perforated stones, much overgrown, supposed by some to have been used for tethering the horses or securing the tents. From this camp the visitor may enjoy a panorama of distant hills, complete but at one point, where the eye meets with a check in St. Michael's Hill. The great landmarks of the county are, however, in view, and from Rana Hill, in the S., you may range round

the horizon by the Blackdowns, the Brendons, the Quantocks, the sea at Bridgwater, the Mendips, the hills from Bath to Sherborne, and Bubb Down, over Melbury. At the foot of Hamdon is the village of

W. Stoke, inhabited by quarrymen, where was a collegiate chapel, founded by John de Beauchamp in 1304, in which a chantry was founded by Hugh, son of Matthew de Gournay, one of the murderers of Edw. II., for masses for his father's soul. It contains the small remains of the once noble mansion of the Beauchamps and Gournays. The chapel is now a cider cellar. It is in the style of Montacute, with an ivied arch at the entrance to the courtyard. In the village a wall pierced with loopholes marks the position of the former castle.

A mile walk across the fields, under the western slopes of *Ham Hill*, leads to *Norton-sub-Hamdon*, beautifully situated under wooded heights. The *Ch.* is a handsome Perp. building, well and skilfully restored.]

[At *Trent*, N. of Babylon Hill, and 4 m. from Yeovil, Charles II. lay concealed for more than a fortnight after the battle of Worcester, and it was from this place that he made his unsuccessful attempt to escape at Lyme, under the guidance of his host, Colonel Wyndham. *Trent Manor House* is but a portion of the old building, containing Lady Wyndham's parlour and the King's hiding-place, &c., carefully preserved. The place of Charles II.'s concealment is a hole about 9 ft. deep, under the floor of the closet, where, tradition says, the King slept. The boards are movable, and a man can easily let himself down between the joists.

The *Church* is a very interesting building, which has received some splendid decorations from the munificence of the late rector, the Rev.

W. H. Turner. It has, to the S. of the nave, a tower and stone spire (Dec.)—a very unusual feature in this district—and a polygonal baptistery (a modern addition) at the W. end. Nearly all the windows are filled with stained glass, principally modern. The rood-loft and screen remain, and are remarkably rich. The magnificent carved oak pulpit was brought from Belgium. The bas-reliefs represent various scenes from our Lord's infancy and childhood. The N. chapel (Dec.) is entered through an arch painted with laurel branches and leaves, among which are 40 shields, representing the alliances of the families of Coker and Gerard. At the N. end are two stone effigies, one in armour, cross-legged; the other a very singular one, partly in military, partly in civil costume. There is also a monument to Sir Francis Wyndham, who, as Col. Wyndham, concealed Charles II. in his mansion of Trent.

A fragment of a cross, with a cylindrical shaft and steps, stands in the churchyard, adjoining which is a picturesque chantry house, and another stands a little further from the ch.]

ROUTE 24.

WITHAM TO SHEPTON MALLET AND WELLS.

(*Branch of the Great Western Railway.*)

Leaving *Witham* Junction, the line runs W.N.W. to

$2\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Wanstrow* Stat. The nave of *Cloford Ch.*, 2 m. N.W., was rebuilt 1856. The chancel, long disused, has been restored by Mr. Horner. In the N. chapel are monuments to the Horners, including an altar-tomb to Maurice Horner, d. 1621, and a quaint one to Sir Geo. Horner, d. 1676, and his lady. Thence to

$5\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Cranmore* Stat. at *West Cranmore*, where the *Ch.* has a good tower of the Taunton type, and contains monuments of the Strodes. *South Hill House* is the seat of Edw. C. C. Strobe, Esq. The ch. of *East Cranmore*, 1 m. E., was rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt, 1846. *Cranmore Hall* is the residence of R. H. Paget, Esq., M.P. On the top of the hill, 1 m. N.W., 900 ft. above the sea, 2 m. from the stat., a prospect-tower has been built, commanding a splendid view. $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. of the stat. is *Chesterblade* (Rte. 20).

Doultling, N. of the rly., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of *Cranmore* Stat., 2 m. E. of *Shepton Mallet*, should be visited for the sake of its fine *Ch.*, *Barn*, and *Quarries* of excellent building stone in the inferior oolite, which supplied the materials of the Cathedral and St. Cuthbert's Ch. at Wells, Glastonbury Abbey, &c. The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Aldhelm (much restored), is cruciform, without aisles, with an octagonal central tower (a good plain example of the 13th centy.), crowned with a later spire. The nave is E. E. ; the chancel Dec. ; the S. porch (rebuilt ; the stones of the old porch may be seen in the Rectory garden) is very rich Perp.,

with a pendant. The N. door is Norm. There are 5 large and fine-toned bells. A short distance from the ch. stands a very fine old *barn*, formerly belonging to the abbots of Glastonbury, built in the early part of 15th centy., with ornaments over one of the porches. In the ch.-yd. is a 15th-centy. *Cross*, with the instruments of the Passion carved on its base. This was probably a Sanctuary Cross, the precincts of the ch. having enjoyed this privilege.

Near the ch. is St. Aldhelm's Well, the source of the little river which is the motive power of the weavers of Shepton. St. Aldhelm died here, May 25, A.D. 709. "When he felt himself stricken for death, he desired his attendants to carry him into the little wooden ch., where, having commended his soul to God, he calmly breathed his last." His body was carried for interment by his own desire to St. Michael's chapel at Malmesbury, a distance of 50 m. Stone crosses were set up at every 7 m. along the road, known afterwards as Bishopstones. Bp. Egwin of Worcester came to conduct the funeral.

Continuing down the valley, watered by the Sheppy, with the southern slopes of Mendip rising rt., we reach

9 m. SHEPTON MALLET Stat. (*Inns*: George, Hare and Hounds; Pop. 5322), commonly known as "Shepun," a busy, flourishing town, containing one of the gaols for the county of Somerset.

The old town, 2 m. long, and very narrow, lies by the stream in the bottom of the valley. The principal street of the more modern town crosses the valley by a viaduct. That it is situated in a country of stone is obvious from the numerous ugly fences which partition the fields.

Shepton derives its distinguishing name from the *Mallets*, its Norman lords, the site of whose ancient man-

sion is now occupied by the Swans in Kilver Street. It was the birth-place of *Simon Browne*, a learned Protestant dissenter, an opponent of Woolston and Tindal, b. 1680; also of *Hugh Inge*, Abp. of Dublin, and Chancellor of Ireland, d. 1528; and Dr. *Walter Charleton*, author of 'Chorea Gigantum,' an account of Stonehenge, b. 1619.

Shepton was a very early possession of the monastery of Glastonbury. The manor was subsequently held under the Abbey by Roger de Curcelle, a Norman noble, from whom it passed to the Mallets. Sir William Mallet joined the confederate barons against King John, and holding his strong castle of Curry Mallet against him, his estates were confiscated; but afterwards restored on the payment of a fine. It then passed by purchase to the Gournays, one of whom, Sir Thos. Gournay, was one of the murderers of Edward II., who having fled to Spain, was taken and drowned on his way back; another was the celebrated Matthew de Gournay, buried at Stoke-sub-Hamdon (Rte. 23). The manor again devolved to the crown in 1536, and was subsequently granted to the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, to which duchy a considerable part of the parish belongs. In 1685 the Duke of Monmouth, with his irregular forces, paid two visits to Shepton, sleeping himself at Longbridge House. Twelve men, who had joined his cause, were executed in the market-place by Judge Jeffreys. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with a good W. tower of the Taunton type, crowned with an incomplete spire, like that of Yatton. The aisles were rebuilt 1827, absorbing the transepts, and the chancel 1851. The two wide eastern bays of the nave, the arches of the chancel, and of the original transepts are very E. E. In the chancel is a beautiful E. E. piscina. The wooden roof is

one of the very finest in the country. It contains 350 panels, no two being alike. There is a stone pulpit together with some ancient crosses and two knightly recumbent effigies in chain armour hoisted to the window sills. The whole has been restored, and re-seated and arranged.

The *Market Cross*, erected 1500 by Walter and Agnes Buckland, hexagonal, surmounted by a pinnacled shaft 51 ft. high, ornamented with niches. Having become ruinous, it was carefully repaired in 1841. The ancient *Shambles* deserve notice. The town contains many curious old houses.

As early as the 14th centy. Shepton was a place of commercial importance. In 1790 more than 4000 hands were employed in the cloth trade. The manufacture of knitted stockings added to the industrial activity of the place. In addition to the large manufactures of silk, velvet, crape, &c., now carried on, there are very extensive breweries. Ropes are made in the parish, and there are large yards for brick and tile making. It is also one of the chief centres of the Cheddar cheese industry. Many hands are employed in the manufacture of boots and shoes. Shepton is a very busy place, and affords much to engage the attention of tourists who feel an interest in the commercial activity of the country. A kiln for baking *Roman pottery* was discovered when building Messrs. Morrice and Cox's, now the Anglo-Bavarian, brewery, which has been carefully preserved and may be seen on application at the brewery, where is also a good collection of local fossils. The *Fosse Way* passes through the E. of Shepton on its way to Ilchester.

[The road from Shepton to Wells, 5 m., is one of the most beautiful in the county, and should be chosen in preference to the rly. *Croscombe*, "the valley of the Cross," 2 m.

on the Wells road, lies situated on the pretty stream which flows past Shepton, in a pleasing valley, once richly wooded. The views obtained from the high ground, near the Pilton direction post, are some of the most fascinating in the county. The village has a *cross*, and a very interesting *Ch.*, which has a stone spire, an unusual feature in this county. The arcades are Perp. and S. door E. E.; but the mass of the fabric is Perp. of the usual type, with rich battlements. It contains an extraordinary amount of fine woodwork, seats, bench-ends, &c., among which the truly magnificent cinque-cento pulpit, bearing Bp. Lake's arms and the date 1616, and chancel screen, rising nearly to the roof of the ch., deserve special notice. The roof of the chancel is of the same date; that of the nave is carved in dark oak. The belfry has a fan-vault. There is a 2-storied vestry on the S. side of the tower, and a stone-ribbed N. Chapel. Some monumental slabs and an incised cross are set up on either side of the reredos.

Croscombe is full of old houses, among which the village *Inn* of the 15th centy. deserves especial notice. It has a remarkably good bay window, with a carved stone ceiling, good fireplaces, good panelled ceilings to the chief rooms, and an octagonal chimney on the gable. The hall of the *Manor House* of the 15th centy., N. of ch.-yd., is used as a Baptist chapel. *Ham Wood* is a lovely wooded and rocky glen, more than 1 m. long. The cliff on the l. above the road commands a remarkable view.

1 m. W. on the road to Wells is *Dinder*, the manor-house of the Somervilles (the small *Ch.* has a slender tower with an effective turret and a cross picturesquely overgrown with ivy); and *Pilton* with its good *Ch.* and fine abbatial *barn* is 3 m. S.W. (Rte. 20).

Passing rt. *Dulcot Hill*, commanding a fine view of Wells and its cathedral (where the tourist will be repaid by walking over Dulcot rock, taking his carriage again at the drinking fountain below), the rly. arrives at

14 m. **WELLS** (Rte. 20).

ROUTE 25.

**BATH TO EVERCREECH JUNCTION, BY
WELLOW, RADSTOCK, AND SHEP-
TON MALLET.**

(*Somerset and Dorset Rly.*)

This line, which by Templecombe and Blandford affords direct communication between Bath and the English Channel at Poole, leaves Bath at the Midland Station, then, crossing the Avon, sweeps round to the E. of the city, and, passing through a long tunnel under Combe Down, reaches

4½ m. 1. *Midford*, a village in a very pretty winding valley, with a little streamlet making its way to the Avon, spanned by a viaduct commanding a charming view up and down the dell. There is also a canal up the valley for the conveyance of coals for Radstock.

On rt., before reaching the Stat., is *Midford Castle*, a picturesque modern house of triangular plan, beautifully situated on a terraced slope, with a deep glen on N. and E. clothed with wood, and orna-

mented with a so-called "priory" and "hermitage."

Midford is a convenient point for visiting *Charter House Hinton*, *Limp-ley Stoke* and *Freshford E.* (Rte. 5).

1½ m. rt. *South Stoke*. The Ch., rebuilt and enlarged 1845, has a Norm. N. door and font, and a Perp. pinnaced tower.

Rt. 2 m., *Combehay Park* (S. Butler, Esq.) embosomed in wooded hills, with lawns sloping down to an artificial lake, and the village of *Combehay*, where the churchyard contains the grave of the poet *Carrington*, the author of 'Dartmoor,' and a native of Plymouth, d. 1830. In the Ch., chiefly modern, lies buried the fiery cavalier, Sir Lewes Dyves, the gallant defender of Sherborne Castle (Rte. 12). Evelyn says of him, "he was indeed a valiant gentleman, but not a little given to romance when he spake of himself." Combehay is in the neighbourhood of 3 farms, which rejoice in the names of *Fortnight*, *Week*, and *Three Days*. The road accompanies the canal, which ascends a steep slope by means of 22 locks.

1½ m. W. *Dunkerton*. The Ch., except the tower, was rebuilt in 1859. Here we enter the coal-field of which Radstock is the centre. The pits are sunk through no less than 3 formations before they reach the coal measures, namely, the lower oolite, the lias, and the new red sandstone. These strata would in some places make a total thickness of 2000 ft., but they are here reduced to less than 500, by the thinning out of many of the beds.

Priston Ch., 2 m. N. of Dunkerton, has on the S. side of the nave a Norman corbel table and a good doorway with a depressed arch; and on the S. of the chancel a priests' door, with a canopied weather moulding. The windows of the chancel are Dec., and in the interior have round their splay some very elegant cusped and foliated work. In one

of the windows on the N. side this is a restoration, but in the other windows the original work remains. The Norman arches under the tower and the Norman arcading are entirely new, and not restored from any remains previously existing.

The rly. continues along the pretty valley on the l. bank of the stream to

$6\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Wellow*. Its *Ch.*, said to have been almost rebuilt by Sir Walter Hungerford 1372, is among the finest village churches in the county, remarkable for the very fine oak roof of the Perp. period, with well-carved bosses and moulded beams rising from good stone corbels. The roof of the Hungerford chapel is richly coloured and gilt. It was restored in 1845, and again 1879. The richly-carved wooden roof, chancel-screen, and E. E. font, are particularly worth notice. There is a good effigy of an ecclesiastic. A manor-house of the Hungerfords is still standing near the churchyard. In a cottage garden is the holy well of St. Julian, according to local tradition the abode of a "white lady," who appeared when any evil threatened the house of Hungerford. In a field called Wellow Hayes, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W., a Roman villa was discovered in 1685, the rich tessellated pavements buried beneath the earth have from time to time been laid bare for inspection. About $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. at *Stoney Littleton*, is a chambered tumulus containing a "cistvaen" 107 ft. by 54 ft. and 13 ft. high, formed into chambers or cists by large flagstones. One cist, near the entrance, is about 6 ft. by 5 ft.; a straight passage, 47 ft. 6 in. long, leads to another cist in the centre of the barrow of about equal size. There are also six smaller cists facing each other, so as to form three trans-septs across the passage and another at the end. It was restored by the Rev. T. R. Joliffe in 1858, and is kept

locked. The key must be had at a house $\frac{1}{4}$ m. away.

3 m. S.E. is *Norton St. Philip* (7 m. S.E. of Bath, 3 m. from Freshford Stat.), a place of antique appearance, formerly noted for its large Cloth Fair. The cloth merchants held their markets in the upper room of the *George Inn*, a very interesting, half-timbered, 15th-cent. house, erroneously stated to have been the Grange of the Prior of Hinton, to whom the market and wool fair belonged. It has bay windows and a porch, an octagonal stair-turret and good chimneys, and a grand old dove-cote. At the entrance of the village stands an enormous elm, of which the trunk forms a summer-house. In this place occurred a skirmish between the army of the Duke of Monmouth and the king's troops under Feversham, June 26, 1685. The latter having been repulsed, Monmouth, who had passed the night at the George, and had been shot at as he stood at the window with a view to the reward offered for his life, marched upon Frome, where, hearing of the defeat of Argyll and the advance of a strong force from London, he determined to return to Bridgwater—to lose his cause on the fatal field of Sedgemoor. The *Ch.*, "eccentric from beginning to end" (*E. A. F.*), probably built of old materials reworked, perhaps from Hinton Abbey, is a fine building of Perp. date, well restored by Sir G. G. Scott, with a rich tower, belonging to no known type. It contains a canopied tomb with an effigy of a merchant, and the so-called "twin ladies of Foxcote," now placed in the Tower, the legend of which may be learned from the sexton.

Proceeding on our route, and passing l. *Foxcote* and *Writhlington*, we reach

$10\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Radstock* (Pop. 3092), a busy, thriving place, owing its prosperity to the coal pits, which afford

employment to a large population, and have converted a pretty village into an unattractive town. There is little to attract the archæologist, but the geologist will find it a good field for his researches. Its name has been erroneously derived from the red sandstone on which it stands; but it is really called from the Fosse Way, close to which it stands, Radstock, i.e. road-village. The *Ch.*, Dec., contains some remains of the rood-loft and a Norm. font. The late Frances, Countess of Waldegrave, was the chief landowner, now Lord Carlingford. Here the rly. is crossed by the G. W. branch from Bristol to Frome.

2 m. rt. is *Camerton*, on the Fosse Way, which traverses a Roman camp. The whole neighbourhood is full of Roman remains. The *Ch.*, with a fine pinnacled tower, deserves notice. A side chapel contains a series of elaborate tombs of the Carews from 1640 to 1750. The situation of *Camerton Court* (the Miss Jarretts) is very picturesque. *Woodborough House* (D. C. Wait, Esq.) is l. of the Fosse. Rt. of the road from Camerton to Radstock is *Round Hill*, a large barrow planted with trees, commanding a fine view towards Radstock. Here the Fosse Way forms a steep, narrow lane of 150 yards in length. Continuing up the valley, with the Fosse Way to the l., we reach

12½ m. *Midsomer Norton* Stat., taking its name from lying pleasantly between two branches of the Somer rivulet. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1832. Three of its bells were given by Charles II., a fact commemorated by his statue on the tower, and an inscription on one of the bells:

“ ’Twas Charles the Second, our gracious king,
Was the chief cause we bells do ring.”

The line climbs rapidly the slope of Mendip to

14½ m. *Chilcompton* Stat., a very beautiful position. The pretty vil-

lage, rt., lies deep down in a wooded glade, watered by the Somer, forming miniature cascades. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1839. The neighbourhood is very picturesque, and abounds in pretty walks.

1 m. S.W. *Stratton-on-the-Fosse* [the Street-town on the Fosse Way] with a Norm. *Ch.* dedicated to St. Vigor. At *Downside* is a modern Benedictine Priory and college, with a grand *Ch.* beautifully situated, and a large wayside crucifix. Still climbing, the line reaches

17 m. *Binegar*, the *Ch.* of which, rebuilt 1859, standing high and bleak on the summit of Mendip, has a good ancient tower with panelled battlements, and a niche containing the representation of the Trinity. The village was once celebrated for a large fair, transferred here from Wells on account of the plague in the 16th centy., and removed back again 1837.

½ m. E. is the small hamlet of *Gurney Slade* in a sequestered dell, watered by a rivulet turning an ancient mill.

Soon after leaving Binegar the line reaches its highest elevation, more than 800 ft. above the sea, and just beyond this is

18½ m. *Maesbury* Stat. for Dinder (3 m.) and Croscombe (2 m.) p. 418. Here on the rt. is

Maesbury Castle, a British camp, with double ramparts—“a very excellent type of Belgic works”—containing 6 acres, on the line of the Roman road along the crest of the hill from the Bristol Channel to Old Sarum. On the summit *Beacon Hill*, 1020 ft. above the sea, crowned with a clump of firs, lies to the l. This is the highest point of East Mendip, across which the Fosse Way ran to Shepton, regardless of all natural obstacles.

Maesbury commands the finest prospect on the E. Mendip, embracing the whole county of Somerset, with parts of the surrounding coun-

ties, the Bristol Channel and South Wales to the N., and to the S. the great central valley of Somerset, with Wells, Glastonbury, and its isolated hills, once islands, rising out of the marsh. The view embraces also Alfred's tower, the Blackdowns, and Quantocks, Dunkery Beacon and Exmoor.

The rly. descends from Maesbury to Evercreech with a very steep gradient. The tourist should notice the very remarkable views rt. on running down to

22 m. SHEPTON MALLET (Rte. 24).

25 m. *Evercreech, New, Stat.*

26 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Evercreech Junction* (Rte. 20).

ROUTE 26.

BRISTOL TO FROME, BY BRISLINGTON,
PENSFORD [STANTON DREW],
CLUTTON AND RADSTOCK.

(Great Western Rly.)

2 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Brislington stat.* (Rte. 21).

3 m. *Whitchurch*, where the *Ch.*, restored 1864, has a central tower and N. transept. The line skirts the E. end of *Dundry Hill*, an outlying ridge of inferior oolite, nearly 4 m. long, and 790 ft. above the sea. *Maes Knoll*, on its E. point, is probably a natural mound, scooped

out for interments. It is an immense tumulus, 390 ft. by 84 ft., and 60 ft. high at the most elevated point. It forms part of a very extensive British station, occupying the summit of Dundry Hill above *Whitchurch*, on the line of the Wansdyke, and corresponding with the entrenched height of *Stantonbury*, 5 m. to the E. of it. The oolite is quarried on the hill.

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. *Dundry Ch.* (St. Michael's) is celebrated for its fine Perp. tower, built by the Merchant Venturers of Bristol, temp. Edward IV., and probably intended as a landmark. The church was rebuilt 1861. In the churchyard is a fine cross with a tall shaft. The head is modern. The summit of the tower commands, on a clear day, one of the most enchanting views in the W. of England. Bristol and Bath, to the N. and E., are both in view; the hills about Calne and Devizes, above the former, bound the prospect. To the rt. of Bristol are seen the hills near Berkeley and Stroud, in Gloucestershire, and the view extends to Malvern Hills. From N. to W. the Severn, with the Welsh coast and mountains for nearly 40 m., and the Quantock Hills, near Bridgwater, appear to view. To the S. the eye ranges over a rich and beautifully varied country, embracing Stourhead, Knoll and Cley Hills near Warminster, bounded by the high ground about Shaftesbury. The *Ch.* of *Norton Malreward* under Maes Knoll, rebuilt 1861, retains its tower and Norm. arch.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Belluton* (T. Barnes, Esq.) belonged to the father of Locke the philosopher.

6 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. *Pensford Stat.*, called by Leland "a market townlet," in his time busy with the manufacture of cloth. It lies most picturesquely in a deep valley crossed by a lofty viaduct more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ m. long and 100 ft. high, through which runs the river Chew, dividing Pensford from

the adjacent village of *Publow*, with a good *Ch.*, the lofty tower of which was struck by lightning 1861. The *Ch.* of Pensford, rebuilt 1568, retains its square tower and curious font. The scenery here is very picturesque.

Stanton Drew, rt. (1 m. through the fields), in the fertile and well-wooded valley of the river Chew

—“*Stanton Drew*,
A mile from Pensford—another from
Chew” —

like Littleton Drew, co. Wilts, derived its name from the family of Drew, owners of the manor, temp. Ed. III. Here once stood a vast rude stone monument of similar character to that at Abury. Considerable portions of it are still preserved. They include the ruins of 3 circles, or ovals, and 4 outlying stones—huge, shapeless blocks, of which 3 form a group S.W. of the ch., called the *Cove*, and the 4th stands on the high-road. This is popularly known as *Hautville's Quoit*, under the idea that it was thrown from the height of Maes Knoll by Sir John Hautville, a redoubtable member of a family who once dwelt here, and whose effigy, in Irish oak, was found many years ago in the ch. of Norton Hautville, and is now in that of Chew Magna. He lived in the reign of Hen. III., and according to the tradition was of such amazing strength that on one occasion, for a wager, he carried no less than 3 men to the top of Norton ch. tower—one under each arm, and the third between his teeth! Of the circles the largest, S. of the river Chew, is 345 ft. by 378 ft., and its circumference, originally of 24 stones, is still marked by 14 stones, of which 3 only stand upright, while in the centre remains a so-called altar-stone, and on the E. side 5 stones of an avenue. The 2nd circle, about 50 yds. further N.E., formed a ring 96 ft. in diam. and now consists of 8 stones, of which 4 are upright; and connected with them are

7 stones of an avenue. The 3rd and smallest circle, 129 ft. in diam., is now partly concealed by an orchard S. of the ch. It originally consisted of 12 stones, of which 10 still remain, the largest being 9 ft. high and 22 ft. round. These stones are called by the country people the “fiddlers” and the “maids,” and the whole “the wedding.” These designations are explained by, unless indeed they have given rise to, the tale told by Stukeley, to the effect that “a couple were married on Sunday, and the friends and guests were so profane as to dance upon the green together, and by a divine judgment were turned into stones.” The former parsonage-house of Stanton Drew is a fine old building, with the arms of Bp. Beckington over one of the windows. The *Ch.*, badly restored 1848, has a beautiful Dec. doorway, with canopied niche, plain bowl-shaped font, and among other memorials the tomb of Sir Michael Foster, one of the Judges of the Queen's Bench, d. 1763. A farmhouse belonging to Mr. J. Fowler preserves some traces of mediæval architecture.

Chew Magna, 1 m. rt. of Stanton Drew, is a very pretty village, once a market town. It has a fine *Ch.*, built or thoroughly repaired by Bp. Beckington, whose arms are to be seen in several places, with a lofty tower, well restored, containing several interesting monuments of families connected with the manor, among them a gigantic effigy of Sir John St. Loe, and an elaborate monument of Edward Baber and his wife, 1578. On the sill of a window is a figure, of the 13th centy., carved out of solid oak, of Sir John Hautville, originally in Norton Hautville ch., near Chew. It has been re-painted in good mediæval taste. S. of the Ch. is a mutilated cross on a lofty stepped basement.

Near the ch. is an old building, supposed to have been built by one

of the St. Loes, now used as a parochial school, but in good preservation. The *Manor-house* (J. Colthurst, Esq.) is also an ancient house, with a gateway, and 2 small octagon towers of unusual character. *Bow Ditch* is a circular entrenchment, with a triple rampart above the valleys.

1 m. S. of Chew Magna is *Chew Stoke*. The parsonage, of the 15th centy., has numerous heraldic devices in panels over the entrance and between the windows, bearing date 1529.

[*Sutton Court*, Sir Edward Strachey, Bart.; partly built by the famous "Bess of Hardwicke," who took, as her 3rd husband, Sir J. St. Loe. Leland, the antiquary, spent some days here in 1534, when he was compiling his 'Itinerary of Somerset.' Here Bp. Hooper found a temporary asylum, and John Locke frequently resided here with his friend, Mr. Strachey. The earliest part of the Court is the tower, with a turret staircase, built on the plan of the Peel towers, with 3 rooms one over the other. The house was added to the tower by one of the St. Loes. It has been well restored by its present owner."]

7 m. l. *Houndstreet Park* (F. W. L. Popham, Esq., also of Littlecot, Wiltshire).

10 m. rt. *Clutton Stat.*, with a fine spacious *Ch.*, rebuilt 1865. The tower was rebuilt in 1728. The font is ancient.

11½ m. *Hallatrow Stat.*, a hamlet in the valley, belonging to the parish of *High Littleton*, 1 m. E.

12 m. rt. *Farrington Gournay*, lying pleasantly in a valley. Its Norm. *Ch.* was rebuilt 1844. The *Manor House* (Major J. E. Mogg) is an ancient building; l. lie the coal-fields of Camerton and Radstock.

14 m. *Welton Stat.*, ½ m. N. of *Midsomer Norton*. (Rte. 25.)

16 m. *Radstock Stat.* (Rte. 25), (the line crosses the Somerset and Dorset line).

The line continues up the valley to 17¾ m. rt. *Kilmersdon*, with a light and elegant Perp. *Ch.*, having a lofty and well-proportioned tower. In the parish 1 m. l. is *Ammerdown Park* (Lord Hylton)—a modern mansion, designed by James Wyatt, in a park 4 m. in circumference on an elevated site. In the park, 800 ft. above the sea, is a column, 150 ft. high, with a central staircase; from the summit a splendid view is obtained. Inscriptions on the plinth in Latin, French, and English, explain that it was erected in memory of Col. T. S. Joliffe. It is open to the public on Mondays and Thursdays.

1 m. S.W. of Kilmersdon is *Babington*, with a modern *Ch.* *Babington House* is the residence of Captain Wyndham Knatchbull.

19 m. rt. *Mells Stat.*, a most attractive spot (Rte. 23), whence a delightful walk wends down the narrow valley under *Wadbury Camp*, by *Elm* and *Vallis*.

24¾ m. *Frome* (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 27.

BRISTOL TO YEOVIL, BY WELLS,
SOMERTON AND ILCHESTER.*(Road.)*

As far as Farrington Gournay this route follows nearly the same course as the rly. from Bristol to Frome (Rte. 26), to which the tourist is referred.

BRISTOL.

4 m. *Whitchurch.*

6½ m. *Pensford.*

9¾ m. *Clutton.*

10¼ m. *Temple Cloud.*

1 m. l. *Stone Easton Park*, the seat of John Hippisley, Esq.

15 m. *Chewton Mendip*, among the combs and projecting spurs of the Mendips. It gives the title of Viscount to the family of Waldegrave. The walls of the *Ch.* are Norman, and it has a doorway and some internal remains in that style. The chancel has an E.E. arcade, separating it from the S. aisle, in which is an altar-tomb to Sir Hugh Fitzroger and his lady, 1388. Many of the carved oak benches remain. There is a good example of the frid stool, or seat of refuge, on the N. side of the sacarium. There is a good lectern of the same date as the Bible which lies on it, 1611, and a portait memorial of the late Frances, Countess of Waldegrave. The tower, one of the finest examples of the Taunton type, has been built on to the earlier nave, "it is one of the best towers we have, and a most stately thing" (*E. A. F.*). The church has been well restored. In the ch.-yard is a very fine canopied cross, with the Crucifixion and other carvings on the head.

[5½ m. rt. lies the village of *Compton Martin*, the road to which, 'under the Mendips, among the picturesque slopes and spurs of the hills, is full of beauty. It passes the villages of *East* and *West Harptree*. The former is seated in a rich and fertile valley. Black oxide of manganese has been dug here in large quantities. The soil abounds in masses of breccia, or pudding-stone, formed of siliceous pebbles firmly cemented together. *East Harptree Ch.* is poor, but its walls are Norm., and it has a S. door of the same style. It contains an altar-tomb, with an effigy in armour to Sir J. Newton, d. 1568, with figures of his 8 sons and 12 daughters. *Richmont Castle*, ½ m. S.W. of the ch., was the stronghold of the Gournay branch of the Harptrees, and was garrisoned in 1138 by Sir W. de Harptree in support of the Empress Maud. Stephen erected a fort against it, which he manned with the garrison from Bath, and ultimately took it by surprise. The building is entirely destroyed, but the site is very picturesque, overhanging a narrow wooded ravine. *Harptree Court* (W. W. Kettlewell, Esq.), is a classical building of the Adams school, situated in a richly wooded and watered park.

W. of East Harptree is a cavern called the *Lamb's Lair*, in the mountain limestone. Other very large caverns at West Harptree, one extending 600 ft. in length, were rediscovered in 1880. The chief chamber lined with stalactites is reputed to be the finest cave in the Mendips.

West Harptree was one of the manors belonging to Sir Thos. Gournay, one of the Barons accessory to the murder of Edw. II. His estates were confiscated by Edw. III., and now form part of the Duchy of Cornwall. The yew-trees in the churchyard, some of them of great age and size, are cut into curious shapes. The *Ch.* was almost rebuilt in 1864-5 by Mr. Giles. The old

tower crowned with a wooden spire still remains, as well as the E. window. There is a good piscina, and a gold chalice of Elizabethan work. Opposite the ch., *Gournay Court* is a spacious and handsome house, almost unaltered, of the time of James I. *Tilly Manor*, standing next the ch., bears the date 1659. The uppermost of its 3 stories has been removed.

Compton Martin. The *Ch.*, deserving careful attention, is of very late Norm. date, "of very high rank in its own class" (*E. A. F.*). It has the unusual feature in a ch. of that date of a clerestory, and is vaulted. On the N. side is a singular twisted pillar. Considerable alterations in the Perp. style were made in the 15th centy. when the tower, an inferior version of the Somersetshire type, was erected. In this parish St. Wulfric was born, in the early part of the 12th. centy. He lived as hermit in a cell at Haselbury (Rte. 28, p. 430) and was buried there by Robert, Bp. of Bath and Wells.

In the direction of W. Harptree a wooded hollow in the hill-side, called *Haydon's Gully*, derives its name, according to the tradition, from a Colonel Haydon, one of Monmouth's adherents, who fled for refuge to this neighbourhood, and lay concealed during the night, at his brother's house; but every morning he rode forth to this sequestered spot, and backing his horse into a hole in the bank, spent the day in tolerable comfort.]

The road here begins to climb the steep slope of the Mendip range, passing rt. *Chewton Priory*, the residence of the late Countess of Waldegrave, now of Lord Carlingford.

17 m. rt. *Green Ore Farm*, on which there is another of the Mendip caverns. Beyond it our route crosses at right angles the Roman road from Uphill, on the Bristol Channel, to Old Sarum.

17 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. *Penhill House*, on the heights of *Pen Hill*, 930 ft. above the sea. The descent to Wells commands a view of uncommon beauty, with the towers of the cathedral rising from the vale. l. is *Stoberry House*.

20 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. WELLS (Rte. 20). Wells to Glastonbury across the levels and peat bogs (Rte. 20).

26 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Glastonbury*, (Rte 20).

27 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Street*. From this village the road on the rt. runs towards *Polden Hill*, a ridge of lias far projecting into the marshes of Sedgemoor. The village of *Edington* on the N. of the ridge, immediately below its greatest elevation, is identified by Bp. Clifford with the *Æthandune* of Asser, the scene of Alfred's famous victory over Guthrum and his Danes, "which changed the history of England." The Isle of Athelney lies immediately below on the S. side of the ridge, and Aller closely adjacent. At the summit it passes

29 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Marshal's Elm Inn*, from which it descends on the other side. l. is the escarpment of the high country of which Polden is an offshoot. It is beautifully wooded. On a commanding point l. stands *Sir Samuel Hood's monument* on the estate of *Butleigh Wootton* (Rte. 20).

31 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. rt. *Dundon Beacon*, an entrenched height 360 ft. above the sea; and at its foot the pretty and picturesque village of *Compton Dundon* and its manor-house. The *Ch.* has a Perp. nave and tower, and Dec. chancel with a fine E. window, piscina and sedilia, as well as the basement of a stone rood-screen. The road now runs on the flank of *Copley* and *Hurcot Hill*, l., both thickly clothed with woods. Further to the l. is *Kingweston* (a corruption of Kenwardston), where is the modern house of F. H. Dickinson, Esq.; close to which is the modern *Ch.* rebuilt by Mr. Dickinson (Giles, *Arch.*), with

a fine lofty spire rising from an octagonal lantern modelled after Lostwithiel. The Norman door, piscina, and font are relics of the former church. The rebels of Devonshire were signally defeated here by Sir Hugh Powlet, 1549. rt. is the river *Cary*, and beyond it *Bradleigh Hill*. Crossing the river, we ascend to

33 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **SOMERTON** (*Inns*: Red Lion, White Hart; Pop. 2302), a small unfrequented market-town, in a charming country of wild hill and fruitful dale. It was anciently, however, as its name indicates, the capital of the Sumer-saetas, from whom Somersetshire received its designation, in which Ina and other W. Saxon kings resided. In 733 it was captured by Ethelbald, king of Mercia. The tradition that King John of France was imprisoned here has arisen from a confusion with Somerton Castle near Lincoln. The *White Hart Inn* is locally identified with the site of the castle. It has some old portions worth examination. The town stands on a hill, but you ascend from it still higher on the road to Langport. Some of the houses are ancient, with good projecting bow windows. The most striking object in the principal street is the sign of the head inn, a red lion of ferocious aspect mounted on a pillar. Turning the corner of this street, we find the

Market-cross, a modern structure, A.D. 1673, on the old stone basement, with open arcade and central column supporting a pyramidal roof. The town-hall, and 2 old houses adjoining form with it a group characteristic of an old English town.

The *Ch.* is a fine building, with wide nave and aisles, a small N. transept, and a tower forming a quasi-transept on the S. side, which is square E. Eng. below and octagonal Perp. above. The church is chiefly Dec., but the chancel very late Perp. The roof of the nave, said (but without

any sufficient evidence) to have been brought from Muchelney Abbey, is remarkably fine, having a large amount of rich panelling, varied figures, and foliage. The pulpit has the date 1615; and the altar, which is finely carved, painted, and gilt, bears the date 1625. Some of the prisoners after the battle of Sedgemoor were confined in this ch., and amused themselves with playing at ball. When the roof was repaired, a large number of balls were found, of which specimens are preserved at the Taunton Museum.

The best view of the town is from *Kingsdon Hill*, 1 m. S.; the best view of the country from the top of *Somerton Hill*, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. towards Langport. The prospect embraces the entire breadth of Somersetshire—from Alfred's Tower in Wiltshire to the Wellington Monument on the border of Devonshire. A person acquainted with the county may recognise from this point the Montacute Hills; Bubb Down, at Melbury; Rana Hill, near Chard; the Blackdowns, the Brendons, the Quantocks and the Mendips.

[It is a pretty walk to *Hurcot Hill*, 2 m. N.E., where there are quarries of alabaster; and rather a longer one over Kingsdon Hill, 4 m. E., to *Lytes Cary House*, ancient seat of the family of Lyte, one of which, Henry Lyte, in 1578, produced one of the earliest works on scientific botany published in England, and established a botanic garden at Lytes Cary. The house, a charming small late-Perpendicular building, consists of a hall, drawing-room, and other apartments, all apparently of one date, except the chapel, which is Dec. The *Hall* has an open roof with a rich cornice, and is entered by a porch with an oriel over the door. The S. front has a fine bay window with a pierced parapet, and a shield bearing the Lyte and Husey arms, and the date 1533.

The seats in the neighbourhood are *Kingweston*, F. H. Dickinson,

Esq.; *Somerton House*, W. Pinney, Esq.; *Kingsdon*, W. Neal, Esq.

The nearest railway stat. is Langport, 5 m.]

Proceeding on our route—

34 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. *Somerton House* (W. Pinney, Esq.) on the banks of the Cary.

35 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. The road crosses *Kingsdon Hill*, commanding a glorious view.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. *Kingsdon*. The *Ch.* has a good square tower, and contains a holy water stoup in the porch, and a recumbent effigy of an armed knight, and on the opposite bank of the Cary, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Lytes Cary House*.

38 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **ILCHESTER** (*Inns*: Dolphin, Bull; Pop. 750), a mean, decayed town, but remarkable for its antiquity and early importance, and as the birthplace of “the wonderful doctor,” *Roger Bacon*, born 1214 (in “the Monastery,” between the Dolphin Inn and the Post Office, burnt down 1846), and of Mrs. Eliz. Rowe, the poetess (b. 1674), (see *ante*, Marlborough, p. 33), whose father was a Dissenting minister here. The Romans made this their principal station in this part of England and surrounded it by a strong wall and ditch, both of which can be traced to this day. It was the *Ischalis* of Antoninus, the *Pensavel-coit* of Nennius. Five ancient roads meet at Ilchester. —(1) eastwards over Camel Hill and by Alfred’s Tower to Old Sarum; (2) northwards by *Somerton* and Street to *Glastonbury*; (3) southwards to *Dorchester*, passing to rt. of *Yeovil*; and (4, 5) the *Fosse Way*, running S.W. to *Ilminster* and *Taunton*. This still forms the principal street, and the highway to *Shepton Mallet*. In the Norman age it contained 107 burgesses. It was vainly besieged by *Geoffrey*, Bp. of *Coutances*, and his nephew, *Robt. de Mowbray*, when they were holding *Bristol* against *William Rufus*, in 1088. The town is seated in a broad marshy vale, on the banks of

the *Yeo* or *Ivel*; a bridge connecting it with a suburb called *Northover*, with a small aisleless *Ch.* wall and square tower, rising from the north bank of the river.

There is little to be noticed here besides the slight vestiges of the Roman earthworks S. and W. of the town. Some of the gardens contain the foundations of the Roman wall, which have been from time to time exposed by digging.

The *Ch.*, with an octagonal tower, built partly with Roman materials, after having been long in a very neglected state, has been lately restored or nearly rebuilt.

The *Cross* is similar to that at *Marstock*, a pillar crowned by a sun-dial, gilt ball and vane. A Wednesday market has been held here since the Conquest.

Ilchester has strong claims to be regarded as the county town of Somersetshire. Till the passing of the Reform Bill, it was the only polling-place for the whole county, the elections lasting 15 days, or till one or more of the competing candidates withdrew. At the little Court-house, near the Cross, the declaration of the poll was made, and here the successful candidates were chaired.

At one time party-spirit here ran so high that electors are said to have desired on their deathbeds that they should be buried in *true blue* coffins. The town was once represented by *Richard Brinsley Sheridan*. The houses on the right, on leaving the town at the south end, were erected by a Lord Huntingtower to increase his votes, but were declared on investigation to be beyond the limits of the borough.

The gaol for the whole county was also here, pulled down about 1856, giving rise to the proverb, referring to the size of the prison and the meanness of the town, “Ilchester all gaol.”

[The church of *Limington*, 1 m. E., has an ancient chantry, with cross-legged effigy of Sir Rich. de Gyverney, its founder, and at his feet a woman veiled. Under the arch, dividing the chantry from the ch. is a tomb to another of the same family, probably Sir Gilbert and his lady. *Limington* was the first preferment of *Card. Wolsey*. He was presented to the living by the Marquis of Dorset, to whose sons he had acted as tutor at Oxford. "Having his presentation," writes Cavendish, "he made speed without further delay to the said benefice to take thereof possession. And being there for that intent, one Sir Amyas Poulet, Knt., dwelling in the country thereabout, took occasion to displeasure against him, on what grounds I know not—tradition reports from being overcome with the strong cider of the place—but, Sir, by your leave, he was so bold as to set the schoolmaster by the feet during his pleasure, which after was neither forgotten nor forgiven."]

On leaving *Ilchester*, we traverse the flat vale of the Yeo, a low line of hills being seen on all sides, and in the direction of *Yeovil* the wooded height of *St. Michael's* at *Montacute*.

Chilthorne Domer Ch., rt., 3 m. N. of *Yeovil*, is Dec., and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight in chain mail, probably commemorating Sir William Dummer, temp. Edward I., father of Sir John, whose effigy is the chief attraction in the church of *Pendomer* (Rte. 28).

43½ m. *Yeovil* (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 28.

YEOVIL TO AXMINSTER, BY CREWKERNE [FORD ABBEY].

(*South-Western Railway.*)

Leaving the *Yeovil Station*, the line passes close to the remains of the old manor-house of *Clifton Maubank l.*, and reaches

124¾ m. (from *Waterloo Stat.*) *Sutton Bingham Stat.* 1 m. rt. are *East and West Coker*, where is *Coker Court* (W. H. Helyar, Esq.), and *North Coker House* (Geo. Bullock, Esq.). The line runs under the richly wooded heights l. of *Abbot's Hill* and *Birt Hill*, elevations of the lower oolite, and enters on the broad green valley of the *Parret*. At 126½ m. the church and manor house of *Pendomer* are very conspicuous objects rt., perched on the summit of the peculiarly-shaped hill from which the parish derives the former part of its name, the latter half being given by the family who for many generations possessed the manor. The *Ch.* is Perp., but it contains, under a Dec. arched recess in the N. wall, an earlier effigy of a knight in a complete suit of ring-mail, probably commemorating Sir John Dummer, temp. Edward I. and II. The cornice above the monument is supported by small figures, and bears a row of prickets for lights. [With this should be compared the earlier and very similar effigy at *Chilthorne Domer*, Rte. 27]. On the l. are seen the marked summits of *Ashlands* and *Crook Hill*.

The line passes 130 m. *North Perrott* rt., with its cruciform Perp. ch., and l. *South Perrott* (in *Dorsetshire*). *South Perrott Ch.* is Perp., with a

central tower supported on Norm. piers. At the manor-house, now pulled down, Charles I. lodged, Sept. 30, 1644, on his march from the West.

$1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.E., on the abrupt slope of the down, is *Cheddington*. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1841. Both the Parrett and the Axe have their sources in this parish, the former in Cheddington copse, 1 m. S., on the estate of W. Trevelyan Cox, Esq.

On the other side of the down, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt., is *Corscombe*, a large parish in Dorsetshire, given by Cuthred, K. of the W. Saxons, to the Abbey of Sherborne. The *Ch.* has a pinnacled tower, and a N. porch with 3 canopied niches over the inner doorway. Thomas Hollis, F.S.A., a once famous freethinker, virtuoso, patriot, and man of letters, now forgotten, owned the chief estate here, where he died suddenly, 1774. He was a liberal benefactor to foreign libraries, especially Bern, Zurich, and Harvard College, New England. Geneva, Venice, Leyden, Sweden, Russia, &c., shared his liberality.

$131\frac{1}{2}$ m., at the village of *Misterton*, is the station for the town, 1 m. distant, of

CREWKERNE (*Inns*: George, Red Lion; Pop. 3149; from Crewkerne there is daily communication with Beaminster, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m., and Bridport, $12\frac{1}{2}$ m.), a market-town of some size, in the valley of the Parrett, surrounded by a wide amphitheatre of hills. It has a manufacture of sailcloth, webbing, and girths, and is a busy place, where every gaping cottage door reveals a loom at work. Several houses, as the George, are constructed of Hamhill stone.

The *Ch.*, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in the county, the other being at Ilminster. It is a beautiful specimen of the Perp. of the 15th centy., of remarkable richness, the windows of the N. transept being especially worthy of notice.

The harmonious simplicity of the W. front, with its octagonal turrets, the W. door and its ornamentation, deserve particular attention. This ch. was given by the Conqueror to Caen Abbey. In 1402 a certain monk of Ford, one Robert Chard, obtained permission to immure himself as an anchorite in a "solitary house" beneath it.

The *Free Grammar School*, on the N. side of the ch., was founded 1499 by John Combe, a native of Crewkerne, and for many years precentor of Exeter Cathedral. It is one of the most ancient in England. Mr. Justice Best, afterwards Lord Wynford, was educated at this school.

The father of *Tom Paine*, author of 'The Rights of Man,' was a native of Crewkerne. He was a staymaker, and carried on business at Thetford in Norfolk, where his son was born.

[*Hinton St. George*, seat of Earl Poulett, is 3 m. N.W. It is occasionally shown. Fuller says it may be called "a charitable curiosity, if true what is traditioned—that about the reign of King Hen. VII. the owner built it in a dear year, on purpose to employ more people thereupon." The earliest portion is the work of the first Sir Amyas Poulett, d. 1537. The garden front is attributed to Inigo Jones. The gateway, erected by the same architect at Clifton Maubank, was purchased by Lord Poulett for 120 guineas, and re-erected in Hinton Park. The suites of apartments known as Queen Anne's rooms were erected by John, 1st Earl Poulett, in expectation of a visit prevented by the Queen's death. The family pictures were given, it is said, to the great Lord Clarendon, and now form part of the collections at the Grove in Hertfordshire and Bothwell Castle in Scotland. Hinton received a visit in 1669 from Cosmo III., Grand Duke of Tuscany, who commended its gardens and terraces as very different from the

common style. The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth appears to have stayed here some time, immediately before the battle of Sedgemoor. During his visit a woman, who was a martyr to the King's Evil, made a rush at the Duke of Monmouth and touched his hand, after which, in the course of 2 days, her wounds were healed. A certificate to this effect was circulated in London, signed by the minister of Crewkerne and several other persons. The Poulett monuments are in the neighbouring *Ch.*, including those of the first Sir Amyas in complete armour, d. 1537, by whom Wolsey was put in the stocks (p. 429), knighted for his gallantry on the battlefield of Newark-on-Trent, 1487; his grandson, Sir Amyas (d. 1588), the gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots, stigmatised as a "dainty and precise fellow, who would promise much, but perform nothing," by Queen Elizabeth, when he rejected, with the indignation of an honest man, the infamous suggestion of her secretaries, Walsingham and Davison, that he should find some means to shorten the life of his prisoner. Sir Amyas was buried in the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Westminster, on the rebuilding of which his monument was removed to Hinton by the first Earl Poulett in 1728. One of its many inscriptions bearing the initials E. R. is said to have been written by Elizabeth herself. Another is in French, one of the latest instances of its employment. His son, Sir Anthony, and his wife, Lady Catherine Poulett, and 10 children, under a canopy between the N. aisle and the nave; the 1st and 2nd Lords Poulett, &c.

In the village is a fine cross of the same type as those of Bishops Lydeard and Crowcombe. The shaft, now surmounted with a Doric capital and ball, with the figure of St. John the Baptist on its E. face, stands on a lofty flight of 3 deeply-moulded steps.

Haselbury, 2 m. W., was rendered famous in the 12th centy. by the residence of the sainted hermit Wulfric (p. 425) "where vexed by fevers and macerations, the gaunt solitary waged his battle against the enemy of souls. Originally a clerical sportsman, he had all at once flung aside his hounds and his vicarage, and without waiting for episcopal sanction or priestly benediction, had immured himself in his jealously closed cell. He was soon known as England's one miracle-worker and prophet." Wulfric hailed Stephen as king as he rode past his hermitage, in his uncle's lifetime, replying to his remonstrances, "It is no error—it is you, Stephen, that I mean—for the Lord hath delivered the realm into your hand—protect the church, defend the poor."—*J. R. Green*. He died 1154. His tomb in the N. chapel of the *Ch.* was visited by pilgrims for ages.

Higher up the valley of the Parrett, 3 m. N.E. of Crewkerne Stat., is *West Chinnock*, where there is a large manufactory of sailcloth. Along the hill further E. are the villages of *Middle* and *East Chinnock*, all with churches of some interest. At *Chiselborough*, 1 m. N.W., many of the inhabitants are affected by goitre and cretinism, maladies attributed to a defective ventilation at a mild temperature, the village being situated in a narrow valley closed on 3 sides by lofty hills.

The *Ch.* is E. E.; the nave, rebuilt 1842; one of the bells bears a very early inscription:

"Carmine letatur Paulus campana vocatur."

Mosterton, 3 m. S., was the birth-place of Sir Alexander Hood. The *Ch.* is modern.

The road from Crewkerne to Chard affords a good view of Crewkerne, together with its background, *Pendomer Down*, and the conical knoll of *Crook Hill*.

A steep ascent leads to the height popularly known as *Strayn Hill*, a narrow ridge, so named from St.

Reyn, or Regina, to whom there was once a chapel on the hill. The road runs along the summit of this ridge to within 2 m. of Chard. Rt. are the fir plantations of Hinton St. George.

1 m. further brings you to the highest point, from which we obtain a bird's-eye view over Somerset and Dorset, each bounded by the sea: in the foreground a clump of beech-trees, and a sandy road descending the hill, complete the picture.

Further still is *Windwhistle Inn*, the favourite point of view. It is a solitary house of entertainment, 4 m. on this road, fully exposed, as its name imports, to the rushing winds. On each side the road is wooded, and on the rt. the trees in summer shut out the view, but when bare of leaves, the English Channel is seen, together with the cliffs of Beer Head. On the l. stretch long undulating lines of hills, innumerable vales and glistening streams, the chequered surface of the fair county of Somerset, edged on the far horizon by the purple sea. A mile nearer Crewkerne the view is open on both sides.]

Proceeding on our route, the line runs through a deep cutting, and, passing under *Shavelane Hill*, l., enters on the rich well-watered meadows of the Axe, with the heights of *St. Rana Hill* and *Windwhistle* rt. At 137 m. rt. is

Winsham, pleasantly situated on the Axe river. The *Ch.* is an interesting building with a central tower, but sadly spoilt by the tasteless patchings and unskilful repairs of modern times. It has the remains of a handsome wood screen, and old oak seats, carved with the linen pattern. There is a curious fresco of the Crucifixion.

[2 m. N. is *Cricket Lodge* (Lord Bridport). Through the trees S.E. are seen the twin hills of Lewesdon and Pillesdon. The mansion is situated far below the road, in a romantic dell, which opens into the valley of

the Axe. It was rebuilt about 60 years ago. Adjoining it is the little *Ch. of Cricket St. Thomas*, in which the first Lord Bridport was buried. There is a monument to his memory, and another to the Rev. William, Earl Nelson, Duke of Bronte, father of the dowager Lady Bridport. *Cricket* was the ancient seat of the Prestons, to which belonged the gallant sea-captain Sir Amyas Preston, who seized the Admiral of the Galeasses of the Spanish Armada, and in 1595 made a successful foray in the W. Indies, "entering Jamaica," says Fuller, "with little loss, some profit, and more honour."]

138 m. l., close to the line, is the group of old grey stone buildings of *Ford Abbey*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. of Chard Road Junction Stat., 4 m. from the town of Chard.

Ford Abbey (Knap Inn), Herbert Evans, Esq., a very beautiful monastic structure, mixed with much heterogeneous modern work. It is seated in its park, in a retired valley on the river Axe, which there forms the boundary of Dorset and Somerset. It was built in the reign of Stephen (1141) for a community of Cistercian monks from Waverley, in Surrey, which had been first established in 1136 at Brightley, near Okehampton, Devon, by Richard de Brioniis, a descendant of the Dukes of Normandy. The monks resided 5 years at Brightley, but driven out "by reason of great want and barrenness," they determined to return to Waverley. On their journey they passed Thorncombe, the manor of the sister of the founder, Adeliza, Viscountess of Devon, who, touched by a feeling of wounded honour at the threatened failure of her brother's foundation, bestowed on them Ford in exchange for Brightley. In the reign of Henry II., by the marriage of the heiress of this family, the abbey passed to the Courtenays, who continued its patrons for many

generations. Its last abbot was Thos. Chard, and he restored and beautified it, and reconstructed the cloister and refectory, which remain perfect to this day. At the Dissolution it was granted to Richard Pollard, who was subsequently knighted, and from his family it passed in succession through those of Poulett, Roswell, Prideaux, and Gwyn. It escaped destruction in the Rebellion, as the property of the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, Edmund Prideaux, who afterwards employed Inigo Jones to make extensive alterations, which were, however, not completed at the death of the architect in 1654. In 1680 the son of the Attorney-General received a visit from the Duke of Monmouth, who was making a pleasure tour through the western counties. He had afterwards, however, to regret the honour, for he was arrested as accessory to Monmouth's rebellion, and kept a prisoner in the Tower until he had paid a ransom of 15,000*l.* to Judge Jeffreys. His heiress carried the property to the Gwyns of Glamorgan-shire. In the reign of Queen Anne Francis Gwyn was the proprietor of Ford. He was Secretary at War, and was presented by the queen with the tapestry which, until lately, ornamented the saloon. In 1815 one of his descendants let the abbey for a term of 3 years to *Jeremy Bentham*, who here wrote some of his works, and here his favourite disciple, James Mill, the father of John Stuart Mill, with his whole family, used to spend nine or ten months at a stretch. In 1847, after the death of John Fraunceis Gwyn, it was in the hands of trustees to sell, and after it had been stripped of its pictures and tapestry, it became the property of G. F. W. Miles, Esq., who sold it to its present owner.

The approach to the abbey is by a broad straight road, which leads to the eastern ivy-covered side, but affords no view of the S. or principal

front. This front faces the lawn and terrace, and presents a long range of sculptured wall, richly coloured by mosses and lichens. Standing facing this front we have before us the existing cloister, which was the N. walk of the original quadrangle, 82 ft. long, of which the other 3 sides have perished. In a line with the cloister further W., to our l. are the entrance tower and abbot's lodgings, beyond which are the apartments added by Inigo Jones. Behind us, on the S. of the square, stood the ch., of which there are no remains. To our rt., on the E. side is the chapter-house, now the *chapel*, and further to the N. there is a groined basement, with a very perfect *dormitory* above, now divided into chambers. Approached by a central door from the N. side of the cloister are the *refectory* and *kitchen*. The cloister, tower, and refectory remain as they were built by Thomas Chard, the last abbot, who was also suffragan bishop, and bears his initials, with the inscription "Anno Dni Millesimo quingesimo vigesimo octavo (1528). A Dno est factum Thoma Chard. Abb." and the arms of Courtenay, Poulett, and Prideaux. The square windows in the W. wing are part of the alterations by Inigo Jones. The *chapel*, originally the *Chapter-house*, is the oldest portion, and probably coeval with the foundation of the abbey, in the reign of Stephen. It is a good example of Transition, with a vaulted roof hung with modern pendants, a finely carved screen and pulpit, and obtusely pointed arches set with zigzag mouldings. The E. window is Tudor, and was probably the work of Thomas Chard. The *cloister* still retains all the beauty of its vaulting and delicate tracery, but is a little injured in effect by the square-headed doors added by Inigo Jones. It is 82 ft. in length, and is now used as a conservatory. The hall or *refectory*, also built by Chard, is 28 ft. in height and 55 ft. in length, lighted by 4

large Tudor windows. Its carved ceiling is gilded and painted, and its walls are partly wainscoted. W. of it are the *state apartments*, designed by Inigo Jones. The most remarkable of these are the *dining-room* and *drawing-room*, both with elaborate and beautiful ceilings, and formerly furnished in the old English fashion with high-backed, tapestried chairs, &c. Above them are several bedrooms, one called *Queen Anne's room*, because prepared for that sovereign by Francis Gwyn, when Secretary at War. The *grand staircase*, designed by Inigo Jones, but completed after his death, in 1658, is much admired, particularly the balustrade. It leads to the *saloon*, also by Inigo Jones, a noble room, 50 ft. in length and 28 ft. in height, and for more than 130 years hung with the famous Raphael tapestries presented to Francis Gwyn by Queen Anne. According to the family tradition, they were worked at Arras for the king of Spain, and taken in a Spanish galleon by one of our cruisers. In the park is a lake well stored with fish, and several old trees, particularly a cedar of Lebanon of remarkable size.

Among the abbots of Ford were Baldwin, Abp. of Canterbury, 1185-1189; the learned and devout Roger the Cistercian, c. 1180; and John of Devon, chaplain and confessor to King John, d. 1210, who, according to Fuller, "travelled in foreign parts, not, as too many, to weed, but gather the flowers, returning stored with good manners, and stocked with good learning, and endeavoured that all his convent should be like him. Ford Abbey, in his time, had more learning than 9 convents of the same bigness."

[*Leigh House* (Henley Cornish Henley, Esq.), on the hill-side opposite Ford, is a fine old Elizabethan mansion, and a perfect example of the period. It forms 2 courtyards, with the hall between them. It was

originally one of the granges of Ford Abbey.

Thorncombe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E., was the birthplace of *Admiral Hood*, Viscount Bridport, 1728. His father was the vicar. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1867, contains a brass to Sir Thomas and Lady Brook, 1437. S. of *Thorncombe* is *Sadbrough House* (Colonel Bragge); and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Chard Junction the ruins of *Olditch Court*, long a residence of the Brook family, afterwards Lords Cobham, who forfeited it by the attainder of Henry Lord C. in the reign of James I. They are probably of the time of Edw. III., and now partly incorporated with a farmhouse.

Hawkchurch, S.W. of *Thorncombe*, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Chard Junction and 4 m. from Axminster, lies very pleasantly on the western side of the hill crowned by Lambert's Castle (Rte. 14), sloping to the thickly-wooded and fertile valley of the Axe. It is actually in Dorsetshire, but lies close to the confines of Somerset and Devon. The manor belonged to Cerne Abbey. The *Ch.* was entirely rebuilt in 1870, but retains many of its original features, including the Norm. arcades of the nave, ornamented with grotesque carvings, the Norm. corbel table, and the chancel-arch, removed one bay eastward. The chancel is entirely new. The tower is a stately Perp. building of 4 stages, bearing the arms of Cerne Abbey. *Wylde Court*, originally belonging to the Abbots of Cerne, is delightfully situated, 500 yds. N. of the *Ch.*, on ground sloping down to the Axe, commanding beautiful views. The house is large, but long and low, built originally in the form of an E, but the W. wing has been pulled down. It contained some portraits, and a curious painting of the E. side of St. James's Park before the conflagration of Whitehall. It is now occupied by a farmer. It was built by Rob. Moore, 1593, it having passed to the Moores from the Leighs, to

whom the manor was given at the Dissolution.]

139½ m. *Chard Road Stat.*, 3 m. from the town of that name (see Rte. 29).

141½ m. rt. *Tytherleigh Arms*, on the highest point of the old road to Axminster. Near it, in a farmhouse, are some remains of the mansion of the Tytherleighs, a family who became extinct 1741, but were long lords of the manor here.

[½ m. to rt. is *Chardstock*, on a narrow peninsula of Dorsetshire, where the Bp. of Salisbury had a manor-house, crenellated by Bp. Erghum, in 1377, some remains of which are to be seen in the *Court House Farm* to the S. of the ch. A stable between the farmhouse and the ch. has a good open timber roof. Joanna Crippen, of this place, coming home from Chard market, Jan. 24, 1708, was buried in the snow from Monday till the following Sunday, and was taken out alive. The *Ch.* was rebuilt with the exception of the S. wall and tower, 1863, adhering as far as possible to the style and proportions of the original edifice. It is a very ornate building. The monument with kneeling effigies to Rich. Symonds, of Coaxdon, and his wife, d. 1610, the grandparents of Sir Symonds D'Ewes, puritan and antiquary, the compiler of the 'Journal of Queen Elizabeth's Parliament,' disappeared in the Restoration.]

146 m. is *Coaxdon*, the birthplace of *Sir Symonds D'Ewes*. *Coaxdon Mill* on the river is picturesque.

Here the line passes into Devonshire, and reaches at

144½ m. *AXMINSTER* (*Handbook to Devonshire*). From Axminster there is daily communication by coach with Lyme. ¶

ROUTE 29.

CHARD ROAD STATION TO TAUNTON, BY CHARD AND ILMINSTER.

The rly. ascends the valley of a little affluent of the Axe from Chard Road Stat. to

3 m. *CHARD Stat.* (*Inns*: George, Crown; Pop. 2411), a rather handsome town, principally of one broad street, running up a hill from E. to W. It is situated within a mile of the border of Devonshire, on a watershed, from which the streams flow in opposite directions to the Bristol and English Channels. It has a manufacture of lace and an excellent market, well known for potatoes, which are principally brought from the neighbourhood of Crewkerne. Charles I. was twice at Chard in 1644—first, on his march westwards, July 24, when he lodged at the house of Mr. Bancroft, a London merchant; the second time, on his return, broken-spirited and wellnigh hopeless. He arrived Sept. 23 with 10,000 horse and foot, and 17 pieces of artillery, and was detained a whole week by the failure of his Somerset commissioners to send on their promised contributions of money and clothing. He left on the 30th, dined at Lord Poulett's at Hinton St. George, where he was joined by Prince Rupert and Lord Digby from Bridgwater. He passed the night at the Manor House, South Perrott, and went on next day to Sherborne. After the fall of Exeter in 1646, Sir Thomas Fairfax marched into Somersetshire, and on April 18 encamped with his army round Chard, whence he despatched Col. Lunsford's regiment to strengthen Blake's besieging force at Dunster. In 1685 Monmouth marched through Chard,

and a little later in the year the inhabitants had to witness the execution of 12 unfortunate victims to the bloodthirsty Jeffreys; according to the tradition, they were hung on an oak recently standing near the lower end of the town, and called the *Hangcross Tree*.

The things to be noticed in Chard are the *Church*, the *lace factories*, the *Grammar School*, and some other old houses, probably of the 16th centy. One, for instance, above the George, and another, the *Chough Inn*, beyond the intersection of the 4 streets. That now called "Waterloo House" contains some good embossed ceilings and other plaster enrichments, principally of Scriptural subjects. [In the neighbourhood, *Ford Abbey* (Rte. 28) and the views from *Snowdon* and *Strayn Hill* deserve notice.]

The *Ch.*, in the street towards Axminster, is a long low cruciform building of the Perp. of the 15th centy., quasi-transepts being formed by lofty porches. The E. window is fine. It contains a strange old monument to the memory of William Brewer, a physician of Chard, and his wife, d. 1614, who are represented in black dresses and ruffs, kneeling face to face at an altar, the one with his 6 sons, the other with her 6 daughters, in pairs, size after size, all in similar dresses and attitudes. The ch. was restored in 1828.

Two lace factories, huge buildings of red brick with innumerable windows, are conspicuous from the High Street, and respectively employ about 200 and 300 hands, exclusive of menders. The lace, however, is not quite completed here: it is sent away to be bleached and to receive sundry finishing touches, but much of it returns to be sold in this town. The *Grammar School* is a quaint old building, deserving notice.

Penruddock and his insurgents met with a severe defeat at Chard (see *ante*, Rte. 12, p. 156).

Snowdon, one of the summits on

the highland from the Blackdowns, rises immediately above Chard, and on a clear day will give the traveller fine prospects over Devonshire and Somerset. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. will bring him to the highest point.

Windwhistle Inn, on the narrow ridge of Rana Hill, 4 m. W., also commands a wide and fascinating view (Rte. 28).

At *Wadeford*, 2 m., and *Dinnington*, tessellated pavements, hypocausts, and stuccoed walls, and other traces of Roman habitation have been discovered.

7 'm. ILMINSTER Stat. (*Inn*: George; Pop. 3500), a town seated on the river Ile, which flows to the N.E. through a low flat country. To the N.W. is the highland of *Neroche Forest*, and its camp. *Neroche Castle*, 6 m. distant. Ilminster has a small woollen manufacture and one of web for carpets. There is now extensive industrial occupation for females in linen collars and cuffs. It is an ancient place, its Saturday market dating from Saxon times.

The *Ch.*, which formerly belonged to the abbey of Muchelney, is one of the 2 finest cruciform churches in this county, the other being at Crewkerne. It has a rich central tower, having crocketed pinnacles and panelling, but of a different class from Huish Episcopi, N. Pether-ton, &c.—"one of the very noblest of parochial towers, a Perp. version of the central tower of Wells."

—*E. A. F.* It has a good stone groined roof open to the interior. The tower, transepts, and porch were built by Sir William Wadham, temp. Henry VII. The whole ch. is Perp., but the nave has been rebuilt, not quite successfully, but as well as could be expected for 1824. The N. transept is much enriched. The chancel is rather plainer, and there is an eastern vestry as at Langport, &c. There is a good brass to Sir Wm.

Wadham and his lady in the N. transept, c. 1440; and in the same transept the tomb with brasses of Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, d. 1609 and 1618, the founders of Wadham College, Oxford,—“whose hospitable house,” writes Fuller, “was an inn at all times; a court at Christmas”—and a tomb of variegated marble to another member of this family, who is represented in armour, standing with his lady under a canopy.

The *Free Grammar School*, which owns the manor of Swanage, in Dorsetshire, is a picturesque building, bearing the date 1586 over the door, formed out of one of the chantry houses of the town by the beneficence of Humphrey Walrond. The late Dean Alford, of Canterbury, was educated here.

[Adjoining the town is *Dillington House*, (V. K. Lee, Esq., M.P.); and between it and S. Petherton a district very remarkable for fertility. The land is on the oolite. The upper and middle lias is also developed here, and among the beds of the former are found abundant remains of fossil saurians, fish, crustaceans, and insects. These fossils are remarkable for their fine preservation, and occur chiefly in a layer of yellow limestone, of which an excellent section may be seen at *Shepton Beauchamp*, near South Petherton.

Barrington Court, 3 m. N.E. of this town, is a very beautiful gabled mansion of the time of James I., the exterior well preserved, and the style and taste superior to what is usual at that period, and with more of Gothic detail. It was a seat of the families of Phelps and Strode, and, when in possession of the latter, was visited by the Duke of Monmouth a few years before his attempt on the Crown. The interior is in a sadly neglected state, nearly all the oak fittings have been destroyed, and many of the carved chimney-pieces removed. One of the latter remains

in the drawing-room, decorated with the arms of the Strode family.

Barrington has a curious cruciform *Ch.* without aisles, having a central tower of octagonal form. The transepts and part of the tower are E. E., verging to Dec., some of the windows having internally the foliated arch, which occurs at Ditchat, Butleigh, and elsewhere in Somersetshire. The upper part of the tower is Dec., and there are fine niches of that character in the transepts. There are some old open seats.

2 m. S.W. of Ilminster, across the fields, is *Donyatt*, with quarries that deserve a visit. The *Ch.* has a fine lofty tower, and good oak benches. It has been well restored. The *Manor-House* was built by Montacute, the 2nd E. of Salisbury, 1345, and portions of the original house remain, used as a barn, that will repay inspection. The main building is of the date of Elizabeth. In 1552 the manor was given by Edw. VI. to W. Herbert, E. of Pembroke. In 1625 it belonged to Sir Edw. Coke, Lord Chief Justice, who made considerable alterations in the house.

White Lackington House, 1 m. E., was in 1681 the seat of G. Speke, Esq. In the churchyard of *White Lackington* Rajah Brooke of Sarawak lies buried. In the park stood the famous chesnut-tree under which the Duke of Monmouth took refreshment in his progress to the West, when 20,000 people were assembled together.

3 m. S.E. is *Cudworth*. The *Ch.* has a rich Norm. tower and font, with lancet and Dec. windows.

2½ m. N. W. in the parish of Ashill is *Jordans* (W. Speke, Esq.), the birthplace of Captain J. H. Speke, the explorer of the sources of the Nile. Here is a fine collection of the many objects of interest brought to England by Capt. Speke, and the gold vases presented to him by the county of Somerset.

Close to Jordans, W., is *Broadway*, with an E. E. and Perp. *Ch.*, deriving its name from an ancient road, cut through the adjoining forest of *Neroche*.

Ashill Ch., $3\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.W., has good Norman doorways; near it is an ebbing-and-flowing spring.

2 m. S.E. is *Dowliswake*, where the *Ch.* contains a tomb of serpentine inlaid with brass in memory of Capt. Speke, to whom the N. chapel contains a memorial window. The *ch.* was rebuilt by the Spekes, 1621–25, in the revived Gothic of the day. The tower is singularly strange and ungainly.

Castle Neroche, 6 m. W., $\frac{1}{4}$ m. off the highroad to Chard, popularly called *Castle Ratch*, is an ancient British entrenchment, occupied subsequently by the Romans, by whom it was strengthened by ramparts of strongly cemented masonry. It stands on a bold projecting point of Black Down, overlooking the Vale of Taunton. The neck of land is strongly fortified with a double mound and ditch. It must have been a place of great strength. It is approached by several British trackways. “Leaving the highroad from Taunton to Chard on the right, after a walk of something more than a quarter of a mile, we arrive at the end of a rampart, consisting of a trench and high bank on the right side of the path. This is the lowest of what may almost be called field works, protecting the only accessible side of the beacon, and continued quite across the sloping side of the hill in the form of a small segment of a large circle. On turning either flank of this rampart we find ourselves in front of another, consisting of a double trench and agger, above which rises a second segmental rampart, similar in construction to the first, but facing more to the N.W., the interior of which is also flanked by a double trench and rampart; and, still higher up the steep ascent,

two more ramparts and ditches occupy the face of the slope from one precipitous side to the other, altogether forming a series of works amply sufficient for the protection of the beacon, the two sides of the narrow slope being too steep to require any regular entrenchments, though they were, perhaps, strengthened by platforms for slingers, some of which I think I have succeeded in tracing. We now find ourselves at the top of the beacon; and from this point, but for the plantation, we should obtain a comprehensive view of the whole entrenchment.” (*Rev. F. Warre.*)

It should be mentioned that a Roman road passed through the encampment of *Castle Neroche*. This camp is in the parish of *Buckland St. Mary*, where a very handsome church has been erected at the cost of the rector, *Rev. J. E. Lance*, which, standing on an eminence, may be seen at a great distance.]

The river *Ile*, from which *Ilminster* takes its name, flows N.E., and joins the *Parrett* above *Langford*, giving its name also to *Ilton*, *Ile Abbots*, and *Ile Brewers*.

Ilton, 2 m. N.E., has a beautiful *Dec. Ch.* of picturesque outline, with S. transept, and a tower adjoining it on the S. side; the whole well restored. A brass to *N. Wadham*, 1508, in shroud.

Ile Abbots, 5 m. N.E. (so called as having belonged to the Abbot of *Muchelney*), has a good *Ch.*, with *Dec.* nave and chancel, and Perp. tower and N. aisle. The tower is a very beautiful one, of the same class as those of *N. Petherton* and *Huish Episcopi*, &c., and has fine canopied niches, with statues of the *Virgin Mary* and *St. Michael*. The S. porch has fine fan groining with pendants. The S. side of the nave has *Dec.* windows; the aisle is *Perp.*, and the arcade is of late character. The chancel arch is *Perp.* and panelled. The chancel

is Dec., of rather early character, with some singularities. The E. window is poor, of 5 unfoliated lights; those on the N. side are of 3 lights trefoiled, with quatrefoiled circles on the heads. On the S. are 3 shallow sedilia, without canopies, or at least left unfinished, and eastward of them rather a remarkable arrangement, consisting of a singular piscina and of 2 canopied niches, one over the other—all of excellent work, but a very uncommon arrangement. There are some good open seats, the bench-ends of which have fine carving. The font is Norman, with a square bowl, on cylindrical stem, surrounded by 4 shafts. On the bowl are rude arches, with some foliage and grotesque sculpture.

Further down the stream, among the marshes, is *Ile Brewers*, formerly the incumbency of the eccentric Dr. Joseph Wolff, by whom the *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1861. *Ile Brewers* is 6 m. from the Langport Stat. (Rte. 30).]

12 m. *Hatch Beauchamp* Stat., adjoining which is *Hatch Lodge* (George Raban, Esq.), and *Hatch Park* (H. P. Gore Langton, Esq.). The hill-sides are here prettily covered with hanging woods. Proceeding along the line, we have 1. a pretty view along a vale to the Blackdowns, which are seen in dark masses by a setting sun. On the rt. is the escarpment of high land extending to Langport, and here hung with plantations. The country is well covered with hedgerow-elms and orchards. We pass 14½ m. *Thorn Falcon* rt., cross the Tone below *Ruishton*, join the Bristol and Exeter line, and reach

16 m. TAUNTON Stat. (Rte. 21).

ROUTE 30.

DURSTON TO YEOVIL, BY LANGPORT [MUCHELNEY] AND MARTOCK.

(*Branch Line of Bristol and Exeter Railway.*)

This line, diverging at the Durstun Stat. of the Bristol and Exeter Rly., ascends the valley of the Parrett to the watershed at Montacute, whence it descends to the valley of the Yeo at Yeovil.

Hard by Durstun Stat. is

Myinchin Buckland, or *Buckland Sororum*, the site of a religious house originally founded for Regular Canons, temp. Henry II., but afterwards granted to the Knights Hospitallers 1180, as a house for all the sisters of their order scattered through the various preceptories. It subsequently became independent of the Hospitallers, as a distinct priory of Austin nuns. A few late fragments of the buildings, with some monumental slabs, one bearing an incised cross to "Sister Aleanore of Actune," were discovered by Mr. Hugo in 1860.

Leaving Durstun, the line runs E., skirting *North Moor*, leaving East Lyng close to the rly. l., to

2½ m. *Athelney* Stat. 2½ m. N. is *North Moor Green*.

The *Isle of Athelney* (A.-S. *Æthelinga*, "the Isle of Nobles,"), formed and fortified by the stagnant waters of the Parrett and Tone near their confluence, is a spot of rising ground surrounded by marshes, now drained and cultivated, and known as *Athelney Farm*, close to the village of *East Lyng* (supposed by Bishop Clifford to be a corruption of "Ætheling" and is celebrated in history as the place where King

Alfred established himself after the Danes had overrun the country. Asser, who visited it in Alfred's lifetime, speaks of it as "surrounded on all sides by water and by vast and impassable peat bogs," to which access could only be had "by causeways, or by a single bridge built and lengthened out with great labour between 2 elevated posts, towards the western part of which a fort of very great strength and most beautiful construction," had been constructed by Alfred.

It is thus described by William of Malmesbury (*de Gest. Pont.*) "Æde-linga-ag is an island surrounded not by the sea but by fens and overflowing marshes, so as to be altogether inaccessible except by boats. On this island is a forest of alders of vast extent, giving shelter to stags and roebucks and many other kinds of game. Of dry there is barely two acres. There is a small monastery with offices for the monks." The bridge and causeway described by Asser are placed by Bishop Clifford between Borough Bridge on the high ground near Othery. From this fastness Alfred made frequent incursions against the enemy, and with such success that he was soon enabled to take the field, when he totally defeated them at Ethandun (identified by Bishop Clifford with Edington on Polden Hill), and captured their king, Guthrum. Having subjected the Danes, he founded a Benedictine abbey at Athelney, of which there are now no remains; but several rude coffins, encaustic tiles and bosses, and other relics, have been found on the site. A stone pillar bears the following inscription:—"King Alfred the Great, in the year of our Lord 879, having been defeated by the Danes, fled for refuge to the forest of Athelney, where he lay concealed from his enemies for the space of a whole year. He soon after regained possession of his

throne; and in grateful remembrance of the protection he had received, under the favour of Heaven, he erected a monastery on this spot, and endowed it with all the lands contained in the Isle of Athelney. To perpetuate the memory of so remarkable an incident in the life of that illustrious prince, this edifice was founded by John Slade, Esq., of Maunsell, the proprietor of Athelney, and lord of the manor of N. Pether-ton, A.D. 1801." The famous Alfred's jewel, now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, was found at Newton Park between Athelney and Bridgewater in 1693. It is a beautiful specimen of 9th-century jewellery, formed of a crystal cut and polished, set in a case of pure gold, the flat side of which is a portrait of Alfred seated on a throne in enamel. The following inscription is worked in pierced letters of gold, "Aelfred mec heht gewyrcan"—"Alfred had me made." This ornament was formerly supposed to be a necklace jewel, but it was more probably the head of a "baculus cantoris" or precentor's staff, or a reading pointer.

At the neighbouring village of *Boroughbridge*, 1½ m. N., conspicuous on the top of a hill, locally called the *Mump*, are the remains of the cruciform chapel of St. Michael, rebuilt 1794. It was much injured in the Civil Wars, when Goring garrisoned it with 120 men, who surrendered to Col. Okey, July 13, 1645, after the battle of Langport and the rout of Aller Moor.

The *Ch.* of *East Lyng* has a tall slight tower, with singularly fine gurgoyles. The font is Norman. There is a fine canopied sedile in the chancel. The bench-ends are of good 16th-century carving.

3 m. l. N.E., overlooking Aller Moor, is *Othery*. The *Ch.* is a very remarkable cruciform structure with a central octagonal Perp. tower. The fabric is of the 13th centy., but it received considerable alterations in

the 14th and 15th centuries. The building was restored at great cost by the late rector. The windows are filled with coloured glass, and there is a unique specimen of a low side window, or lychnoscope, with a perforation in an external buttress to command the opening. There is a Norm. gable cross, a great architectural rarity. At the Vicarage a splendid embroidered 15th-century cope is preserved.

1 m. l., on a knoll, commanding a wide and lovely view over the rich pasturage of the marshes, is *Aller*, 2½ m. N.W. of Langport Stat., of interest in history, as the place where, A.D. 878, after his defeat at Edington, Guthrum the Dane was baptised, Alfred standing sponsor to his vanquished enemy (see *Wedmore*, Rte. 20). A large ancient font was some years ago dug out of a pond in the vicarage garden, and has been replaced in the ch. It is asserted (but without any foundation) that this is the identical font in which King Guthrum was baptised. The Danish King was probably immersed in the Parrett. The *Ch.*, though small, is interesting, and has 2 remarkable turrets. It contains a stone effigy to Sir W. Botreaux, 1420. *Aller* was the birthplace of Dr. Cudworth, 1617, whose father was rector. The marshes below were the scene of the final rout of the Royalist forces by Fairfax and his army, after the battle of Langport, July 10, 1645. The Royal forces, in the flight from Langport, made a stand at *Aller Drove*, but soon "faced about," says Sprigg, "and never stood after." The horses got lost in the ditches, and the men entangled in the meadows, and were taken prisoners to the number of 140. Fairfax's forces pursued them within 2 m. of Bridgwater, doing execution on them all the way, losing hardly 40 men themselves of killed and wounded.

7 m. LANGPORT Stat. The town of Langport (*Inn*: Langport Arms; Pop., with Huish, 1706) stands on the rt. bank of the Parrett, just below its confluence with the Ille and Yeo, where a break in the line of hills gives passage to the united streams, overlooking very extensive marshes. It climbs the hill from the river in one long narrow street, and presents nothing to detain the tourist except its two churches, with their noble towers. "A glance at the map shows the strategical importance of Langport. It occupies a neck of land not more than a few hundred yards wide. The bridge unites the Belgic bank with that occupied by the Damnonii, the River Parrett being the boundary between the tribes. The E. point of this neck was defended by earthworks. The lines of defence may be still traced on both sides of the Taunton road." Langport may have been the Llongforth of Welsh poetry, where a great battle was fought, between the men of Devon headed by Geraint and the West Saxons (see Skene's *Four Ancient Books of Wales*, ii. 37), which may probably be identified with the engagement with Ina of the A.-S. Chronicle, A.D. 710. "Langport," says Collinson, "was anciently more celebrated than now." It was here that Henry I. first proposed to erect the large Benedictine abbey, afterwards founded at Reading.

Charles I.'s forces, under Lord Goring, were defeated by those of the Parliament, July 10, 1645, near Langport. "It was rather," says Fuller, "a flight than a fight, and henceforward the sun of the king's cause declined, verging more and more westward till at last it set in Cornwall." Fairfax, who had dispersed the "clubmen," and by the very rumour of his approach raised the siege of Taunton, marched hence to Bridgwater, which surrendered July 23.

Langport Ch., at the upper end of

the town, a large Perp. building, has a good tower of the date of Henry VII., numerous windows and light arcades, and a chancel with good wood ceiling. There is a curious piece of sculpture over the inner door of the porch, representing the Holy Lamb inside a ring, the ring being held by 2 angels, and a bishop standing on either side. The E. window contains some excellent ancient stained glass, well restored. In the vestry, which is below the E. window, as at Ilminster and Crewkerne, is a magnificent monumental slab of Purbeck marble.

Immediately beyond the ch. the road is crossed by an archway, above which is a Perp. chapel, known as the *Hanging Chapel*, formerly used as a grammar school, and afterwards as the Quekett Museum (perpetuating the name of the celebrated microscopist whose father was master of the school), containing a small miscellaneous collection of curiosities, now chiefly removed to Taunton Castle. A little further l. rises the exquisite tower of *Huish Episcopi*, one of the most perfectly lovely of the many fine towers which are the glory of Somersetshire. It is of the Glastonbury type, with projecting pinnacles. The proportions are perfect, and the workmanship excellent. The *Ch.*, which is unworthy of the tower, is of several dates; the Transition doorway reddened by fire, of the time of Henry II.; the walls and most of the windows of the 14th centy., with ugly flat ogee arches. The S. aisle was added 1873.

At *Pitney*, 2 m. N.E., a Roman villa, with good tessellated pavements, has been excavated.

[A walk of 1 m. S. from Huish Ch. across the marshes leads to the little village of *Muchelney*, rising out of the surrounding morass, its remoteness, according to Wm. of Malmesbury, being the cause of its selection (the "muckle eye or great

island"), with its abbey remains, ch., village cross, and ancient houses embowered in orchards. It is a place of no ordinary beauty and interest, and should by no means be missed. The first house rt. on entering the village, known as the *Almonry*, preserves a fragment of Norman sculpture over its pointed doorway; a nimbed saint under a semicircular arch. To the l. is the *Vicarage House*, an unaltered example of a small ancient house of the 15th centy., with a small hall and parlour beyond, and bed-chamber over. The handle, knocker, lock, and other fittings of the door should be carefully remarked. The *Village Cross* has been well restored. The *Ch.* has also undergone an excellent renovation. It is wholly Perp., with a good plain tower and groined belfry, and fine canopied stoup at the W. door, and a S. chapel with an enriched panelled ceiling opening into the ch. by a fine panelled arch. There is a handsome founder's tomb, of the 14th centy., in the churchyard. Of the *Abbey*, founded by Athelstan, A.D. 939, the remains are scanty, but highly interesting. The foundations of the *Abbey Ch.* have recently been laid bare by the owner, W. Long, Esq., revealing the plan of a Norm. building, terminating in an apse, with a circular Lady-chapel beyond, resembling Becket's crown at Canterbury. In the 14th century the Norm. Lady-chapel was replaced by a rectangular chapel extending further to the E. The extreme length from the W. wall to the E. end is 235 ft. In a N. Trans. or chapel may be seen the remains of the altar platform and a mutilated effigy of an Abbot in an altar-tomb of the end of the 14th century. The exquisite pavements of encaustic tiles discovered in the site have been relaid under the tower and in the chancel of the ch. To the S. of the ch. are the remains of the cloisters and of the Abbot's House.

"This latter is nearly perfect, and presents a fine example of a nobleman's house of the period."—*J. H. P.* The S. front is nearly unaltered, and is a very excellent composition. To the E. of the house are the panelled walls of the domestic chapel, with traces of the screen, and the usual two-storied arrangement at the W. end. One of the chambers, approached by a stone staircase, retains the wainscot and settle and wooden panels of the time of Henry VIII. There is also a magnificent stone-panelled chimney-piece, and a ceiling supported by huge lion corbels. Of the Perp. cloister 6 bays of the S. walk remain, now used as a cellar. The springing of the rich vault is still to be seen. At the S.E. corner of the garth is a well walled with stone. The whole group is charming, and full of unusual interest. The vegetation all round is rank and abundant. The botanist will find the *Ceterach* and other exquisite ferns and the Cheddar pink, growing on the old walls.]

[2 m. to N.E. of Langport is *Low Ham Ch.*, formerly a domestic chapel annexed to a mansion now destroyed. It was built by Sir Rich. Hext, d. 1624, but in mediæval style. It stands in a large field, and has no ch.-yd. around it. It has a clerestoried nave, groined in plaster. The chancel roof is painted with stars. There are hardly any signs of debasement except the E. window. Over the chancel screen are the Royal arms, and under them the following text: "My son, fear thou the Lord and the king, and meddle not with them that are given to change." The pulpit cloth was rich, the date 1670. There is a fine tomb with the effigies of Sir Edward and Lady Hext, whose only daughter married Sir J. Stawell, the cavalier leader of Cothelstone, and in this family the property long remained. Lord Stawell began a sumptuous mansion here, "declar-

ing," it is said, "that as he had the most beautiful wife and horse in the world, he would also have the most beautiful house." But it was never finished; a few walls, outbuildings, and grassy terraces, once intended for gardens, alone remain. It is altogether a singular spot.

High Ham Ch., built 1476 by Abbot Selwood, of Glastonbury, aided by Lord Poulet, and the rector, John Dyer, d. 1499, whose monumental slab records the fact, has a superb rood-screen, a richly carved roof, and a singularly perfect rood-loft and staircase. *Long Sutton*, 4 m. E., was the quarters of Goring and the Royalist forces before the battle of Langport, and after their defeat of Fairfax and his victorious army. The *Ch.* is a good Perp. one of the local type, with a fine tower. The nave has a clerestory and light arcades, and an excellent wood roof. There is also a highly enriched screen and rood-loft, stretching across the whole breadth of the ch., and an elaborate stone pulpit.]

[On the other side of the valley of the Parrett, W., a long stretch of high ground rises. On an escarpment of these heights stands the *Parkfield Monument*, commonly known as the *Burton Steeple*, a column 140 ft. high, crowned by a funeral urn, erected by the Earl of Chatham to the memory of Sir William Pynsent. It commands a prospect N. and S. through an avenue of fine trees, particularly beautiful towards the N., where the marshy levels of Bridgwater, extending to the sea-coast, contrast with innumerable hills and woods. To the l. stood the mansion of *Burton House*, now almost entirely destroyed. For many years this estate was the seat of the Pynsents, but in 1765 Sir William Pynsent, the last of that ancient family, having no issue, bequeathed it to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, to whom he was an entire stranger,

"in his veneration of a great character of exemplary virtue and unrivalled ability," and also on account of Pitt's opposition to the cider tax. The story goes that Sir William on more than one occasion attempted to make his way into Pitt's house, to let him know his intention, but was turned back by the servants on account of his disreputable appearance. When Earl of Chatham, Pitt occasionally resided here, and here the little William Pitt's tragedy of "Laurentius King of Clarinium" ["Bad, of course," writes Macaulay; "but not worse than the tragedies of Hayley" (see Lyme, p. 233)] was acted for the first time, Aug. 22, 1772, when the poet had barely attained his 13th year. The grounds once contained a funeral urn, dedicated to his memory by his Countess, 1781, who made it her permanent home after her widowhood, and died here April 3, 1803. This urn was removed to Stowe, 1831. On the dispersion of the objects collected there, the urn fell into the hands of strangers, but was recovered by Mr. Banks Stanhope, and now stands in his gardens at Revesby Abbey, Lincolnshire.

Curry Rivell, 2 m. S.W. Dean Alford's grandfather was vicar here, and his father resided here in 1819 when curate of Drayton. The *Ch.* is worth a visit. It has a lofty tower, recently rebuilt, a groined porch, and both sides of the nave equally well finished externally. The nave is good Perp., but the chancel has some Dec. work, and the E. window of the N. chapel has ball-flower in its arch moulding and shafts, with nail-heads in the capitals. There are also some sepulchral arches of the same date and very excellent character, in one of which is a remarkably small monumental effigy. Some of the windows have good ancient coloured glass, and there is an elegant rood-screen. I. of the altar a curious monument preserves the memory of

Marmaduke and Robert Jennings, whose effigies appear in the costume of troopers, with jack-hoots and jerkins. Around the tomb are quaint figures of attendant mourners.]

Returning to the rly., and continuing our route, we pass,

10½ m. rt., *Kingsbury Episcopi*, (2½ m. N.W. of *Martock Stat.*), which has another fine Perp. *Ch.*, with a very rich and beautiful tower, having pierced battlements and pinnacles of the Glastonbury type, and double windows, with stone lattice-work. There is a N. transeptal chapel, which has large windows, containing some good stained glass. The fine double panelled tower arch and canopied niches adjacent deserve notice. There is a good open roof, and a rich rood-screen and loft. As at Langport, there is a vestry under the E. window. The *Vicarage* has a good Perp. window, and the whole village abounds in ancient houses.

12 m. *MARTOCK Stat.* (*Inns*: White Hart, George; Pop. 2230). *Martock* is a small picturesque town, containing several ancient houses, originally a manor of the Fienes, chiefly remarkable for its noble and beautifully restored *Ch.*, one of the largest and finest in the county. The nave and tower are wholly Perp.; the latter, which is the earlier, not rich in proportion to the nave, which is of very grand proportions, with fine arcades, having panelled spandrels, a lofty clerestory, with niches between the windows, and a magnificent open roof of dark oak, one of the finest in the county. The chancel is earlier than the nave, and its E. window consists of 5 lancets. Perp. chapels open into the chancel on each side by two arches. The nave clerestory has a very elaborate pierced parapet. The S. porch is groined and has a chamber over it.

Opposite the ch., and approached by a ruined gateway, is a small *Manor-*

house of the 14th centy., in good preservation and an excellent example of the period. The hall has a fine collar-beam timber roof, and is lighted with graceful transomed windows, with foliated rear arches (see *Barrington*, p. 437). There are two large carved stone brackets for lights. The minstrel gallery is boarded off, but the kitchen and other offices remain much as they were in mediæval times. The *Market Cross* is a fluted column, bearing a sun-dial, ball, and vane, rising from the original base.

Cromwell and Fairfax, with their troops, were at Martock, Sunday, July 27, 1645, and gave thanks in the ch. for the taking of Bridgwater.

Thomas Farnaby, a celebrated grammarian, and editor of *Virgil*, *Juvenal*, and other classical authors (d. 1647), kept school at Martock.

[*South Petherton*, 3 m. S. by W. of Martock Stat., is a small market-town, boasting of a stately cruciform church, with octagonal tower, and chancel windows of early 14th centy. date. It contains some ancient tombs. The house popularly and absurdly known as *King Ina's Palace* was built by the Daubeney family early in the 16th centy. It has, or had, a fine hall, with open timber roof, a noble bay window, of 2 stories, lighting the parlour and chief bedroom, and other architectural features of interest.

Tintinhull, 3 m. E., has a small Ch., without aisles, having early and curious features, and a tower on the N. side of the nave. The prevailing features are E. E., but some windows are Perp. In the chancel are some windows of 2 lights, verging on Dec. The porch has a plain stone-arched roof, with strong ribs. The bench-ends are exceedingly fine, and there are 2 brasses to ecclesiastics of the 15th centy.]

The rly. crosses the Fosse Way at 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ m., and passing rt. under the

fine camp-crowned hill of *Hamdon*, and the conspicuous wooded summits of *Montacute*., and the long, stately front of *Montacute House* (Rte. 23, p. 413), we catch glimpses of the churches and villages of *Lufton* and *Preston* l. and *Odcombe* and *Brympton* rt., and reach

18 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *YEOVIL* Stat. (Rte. 23).

ROUTE 31.

TAUNTON TO WATCHET. BISHOP'S
LYDEARD, CLEEVE ABBEY, DUN-
STER, MINEHEAD, PORLOCK, LYN-
TON.

(*Branch of Bristol and Exeter
Railway.*)

On leaving Taunton, we travel along the Bristol and Exeter line as far as 165 m. *Norton Fitzwarren* (p. 391), *Norton Manor*, C. N. Welman, Esq. where it diverges N.W. along the valley of an affluent of the Tone to

5 m. *Bishop's Lydeard* Stat., a village coloured blood-red by the soil. It is remarkable for its *Church-tower*, a very beautiful specimen of the Perp. of Hen. VII., consisting of 4 stories, which are surmounted by a pierced parapet. There is a brass to *Nicholas Grobham* 1585, and his wife *Eleanor*. In the churchyard is a magnificent cross, an unrivalled example of 14th-cent. work. On the E. face of the shaft is a figure of *St. John* the Baptist under a canopy. Each of the 8 faces of the socket exhibits a bas-relief—our Lord in Majesty to the E.; the Resurrection

to the W., and the twelve Apostles. A fragment of the village cross has found shelter in the same churchyard. King Alfred had the lands of Lydeard, which he gave to Asser. They afterwards passed to the Bp. of Bath and Wells. Bp. Barlow exchanged them away with Edw. VI. for other lands. Here is an almshouse founded and endowed for poor people by Sir Richard Grobham, a native of the parish, in the 17th century. Sir J. Popham, "memorable as for the antiquity of his noble descent, for his strict justice and unwearied diligence," built a mansion here, held in the Civil Wars as a garrison against the King by Sir R. Grenville, and reduced to a heap of ruins. 2 m. towards Bridgwater, at the foot of the richly-wooded Quantock Hills, are the interesting remains of the ancient manor-house of *Cothelstone*, formerly the seat of the Stawels, and the modern mansion of that name, seat of Charles Esdaile, Esq. (Rte. 21). Sir John Stawel, the owner of *Cothelstone* in the time of the Great Rebellion, was a zealous adherent of his sovereign, who paid for his loyalty by seeing his noble mansion despoiled and devastated, his woods felled, and many of his estates sold. Lord Clarendon characterises him as a "gentleman of the largest estate that any man possessed in the West, who, from his very great affection for the person of the King, and for the government that was settled both in Church and State, engaged with singular courage both his own person and two sons in the most active part of the war, and had rendered himself as odious to Parliament as any man in that condition had done." He lived to see the Restoration, and was one of the 100 knights who welcomed Charles II. at Charing Cross. His loyalty and his sufferings are recorded in his epitaph on the monument in *Cothelstone Ch.* His eldest son was

created Lord Stawel. The title is now extinct.

There is a splendid view from the hill on which *Cothelstone Manor* stood, and where the lodge remains. It embraces the vale of Taunton, bounded by the Brendon Hills, great part of Dorsetshire, and part of Wilts, the Channel for 50 m., and the Brecon mountains. In the *Ch.* are Norman pillars and arches, and tombs with fine effigies of the Stawels.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Watts House*, Mrs. Winter; 1. *Sandhill Park*, Sir Wroth A. Lethbridge, Bart.

$6\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Combe Flory*, in a richly wooded park, from 1828 the living of the celebrated wit *Sydney Smith*, d. 1845, who made the parsonage one of the most delightful of residences. "He carried his system of furnishing for gaiety," writes his daughter, Lady Holland, "even to the dress of his books, which were not brown, dark, dull-looking volumes, but all in the brightest bindings." The open windows admitted "a blaze of sunshine and flowers," and commanded a view of a pretty valley and a wood which was traversed by paths. Here the ingenious Sydney would entertain his London friends with many a pleasant device. On one occasion he called in art to aid nature, hanging oranges on the shrubs in the drive and garden. "The stratagem succeeded admirably, and great was his exultation when an unlucky urchin from the village was detected in the act of sucking one through a quill. It was as good, he said, as the birds pecking at Zeuxis' grapes. At another time, on a lady happening to hint that the pretty paddock would be improved by deer, he fitted his 2 donkeys with antlers, and placed them immediately in front of the windows."

In the *Ch.* are the effigies of a cross-legged mailed warrior, and 2 females, members of the Meriet family, to whom the manor belonged from the

time of Edward II. In the churchyard is a restored cross.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Lydeard St. Lawrence*, in a beautiful position, commanding a fine view of the dark Quantock Hills, and in particular of *Will's Neck*, the highest point of the range, 1270 ft. above the level of the sea. l. are the Brendon Hills, great offshoots of Exmoor. This village was the birthplace of *Thomas Manton*, a learned Nonconformist divine, b. 1620.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further W. is *Tolland* and S. of it *Gaulden Farm*, a curious old manor-house.

9 m. *Crowcombe Heathfield Stat.*, a most lonely desolate spot, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the romantic little village of Crowcombe (Rte. 32). On the other side of the line we see the flank of a fir-covered knoll, an outlier of Brendon Hill, crowned by *Willet Tower*, a conspicuous object from many distant parts of the county. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. on *Brendon Hill* is a British camp called *Ellworthy Barrows*. This range attains a height of 1210 ft. above the sea, and has acquired importance by the discovery in it of a valuable vein of carbonate of iron. The lode is now worked by the Ebbw Vale Company.

The cross-roads here are characteristic of this part of the county; very narrow, deep, precipitous, and overhung with hedges.

On the l. *Ellworthy*, a woody romantic spot. *Willet House* (John Blommart, Esq.).

$11\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Stogumber Stat.* $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. is *Stogumber*, anciently *Stoke-Gomer*, famous for its tonic ale, made from a spring possessed of medicinal virtues, near the village. The *Ch.*, St. Mary, is large and handsome, with N. and S. aisles, and 2 chapels. It has a stone pulpit and some fine monuments—one especially of Sir G. Sydenham, a major in the Cavalier army, d. 1664 (whose ghost is still believed to ride his spectral horse

down Sydenham Combe), and his 2 wives. A cross restored in questionable taste stands in the churchyard; 2 miles on the left is situated in a narrow deep valley, the Elizabethan manor-house of *Combe Sydenham*, worthy of a visit. It has a gabled tower in the centre, the remains of a noble kitchen, and other indications of having been a mansion of great importance. Over the entrance porch, bearing the date 1580, is the inscription:

“Porta tuis semper Georgii generose
patebo,
Ingratis animis janua clausa patens.”

with shields bearing the arms of Sydenham and Stourton.

3 m. W., in a deep valley or combe, is *Monksilver*. The *Perp. Ch.* contains some good bench-ends, and has been well restored, and a churchyard cross erected. In the ch.-yd. is a monument to Mrs. Conybeare and her 2 daughters, who were murdered in their house, 1773. To the l. 1 m., are the park and gardens of *Nettlecombe*, seat of Sir Arthur W. Trevelyan. This is a fine ancestral place, and contains numerous portraits of the Trevelyans, with many curiosities, such as an original grant of Nettlecombe in the reign of Henry II., and a miniature portrait of Charles I. worked with his own hair. An oak in the park measures 17 ft. in circumference near the ground. *Nettlecombe Ch.* contains some fine monuments to the Raleighs and some good 15th-cent. glass. The font is carved with the 7 sacraments. At Nettlecombe, several bushels of human bones were discovered, supposed to be the remains of the Danes who landed at Watchet, and were defeated there. *Leighland Chapel*, farther W., in a romantic dell, by Treborough, was formerly attached to the abbey of Old Cleve.

13 m. rt. on the hill is the village of *Bicknoller* (Rte. 32).

14 m. l. is *Sampford Brett*, with a *Ch.* with carved benches and pulpit

of black oak, and a cross-legged effigy of a knight in armour; at the foot of the hills, *Weacombe House*; away in the distance, l., the ranges beyond Dunster, and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

15 m. WILLITON Stat. (*Inn*: Egremont Arms, Railway Hotel; Pop. 1500), a village of 2 long streets, in a sheltered valley under the Quantock Hills, about 2 m. from the sea. The cottages are embowered in myrtles and creepers; but there is little here to delay the traveller, the remains of 2 old crosses by the inn and one in the churchyard being the only objects of any curiosity. To the S. are seen the fire-crowned hills of *Nettlecombe Court*; and nearer Williton is *Orchard Wyndham*, seat of the late Earl of Egremont, now belonging to his widow. Orchard Wyndham is a beautiful old manor-house; for the last 3 centuries the seat of the Wyndhams. It was here that 2 king's messengers came, on Sept. 21, 1715, to arrest Sir W. Wyndham, M.P. for Somerset, who was suspected of being mixed up in the Pretender's plot. Sir Will. was not up, but came in his dressing-gown to the disturbers of his slumbers, who thereupon told him "he was their prisoner." He requested leave to return and dress himself, saying, "that his coach and six would be ready at 7 to convey the party," but he slipped out of a back door, and though a reward of 1000*l.* was offered by the Privy Council, he, by assuming the habit of a clergyman, managed to elude detection, till at last he surrendered himself, and remained a prisoner in the Tower, till June, 1716, when he was admitted to bail, and returned home. In Blackdown Wood, near Orchard Wyndham, is an upright stone 7 ft. high, bearing a star and female head, and inscription, long supposed to be a memorial tablet to a young Roman lady, Julia

Martima, but proved by Mr. W. George of Bristol to be a modern forgery, incorrectly copied from an engraving of a slab at Ellenborough in Cumberland. It is popularly called "*Old Mother Shipton's Tomb*." In the reign of Henry II. Williton was the residence of Sir Reginald Fitz-Urse, one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket. It is a walk of 2 m., or 1½ m. over stile and by green pathway (*over the ground*, in Somersetshire dialect), to the small but ancient seaport of *Watchet*, passing the *Parish Ch.* of

St. Decumans, so called from its patron saint, d. 706, who, according to the legend, crossed the sea from Wales on a hurdle (some accounts say his cloak), became a hermit here, and was nourished by a cow. It occupies a commanding point of view, and the tall, bare, square tower is very conspicuous. It contains memorials of the Wyndhams. Among them are brasses of Sir John Wyndham and his wife, 1571; of John Wyndham and his lady Florence, habited in the dress of the period, 1572, 1596; monuments of Henry and George Wyndham, with 2 kneeling figures the size of life, 1613, 1624; of Sir William Wyndham, 1683; and of the late Earl of Egremont, a slab of blue marble emblazoned with shields. The roof, pulpit, screen, and pews are of carved oak; and the churchyard contains an ancient *cross*, early 14th century.

The rly. reaches in

16½ m. WATCHET (*Inn*: West Somerset, a comfortable little Hotel) situated at the end of a pretty valley, which runs obliquely to the sea; It is a small port, with some pretensions to be called a watering-place, with a pier built by Sir W. Wyndham, Secretary-at-War under Queen Anne, ironfoundry and paper-mill, its principal business being the transportation of iron ore to Wales, and

the importation of coal for the limekilns. On either side of it are cliffs of blood-red conglomerate, streaked by light-green bands of limestone, and, towards Blue Anchor, abounding in alabaster, which is collected and ground for cement in a mill at Williton.

The shore here is low, and affords a convenient landing; of which the piratical Danes more than once took advantage, disembarking their marauding hosts here. In 988 the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells us, "the port of Watchet was plundered." This attack however was not successful in effecting a lodgment; several of the English Thanes were killed, but the Danes were at last beaten off. Beyond Watchet, breezy heathy hills look down on the sea at their foot. The walk along the shore to the *Blue Anchor (post)*, 2 m. W., is much to be recommended. Picturesque cliffs overhang the sea. [At *Watchet* a short rly. diverges to the *Brandon Hills* (West Somerset Mineral Rly.) for the conveyance of its iron ore with stations at *Washford* (2 m.); *Roadwater* (4 m.) and a terminus at *Combe Road* (6 m.)]

The rly. turns inward to

18 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **WASHFORD**, close to which in a valley, called in old records *Vallis Florida*, the Flowery Vale, which is watered by a stream flowing into the Channel at Watchet, are the little known but singularly beautiful and interesting ruins of

Cleeve Abbey, founded for Cistercian monks, 1188, by William de Romare, grandson of the Earl of Lincoln, the founder of the Cistercian Abbey of Revesby, in Lincolnshire, of which Cleeve was an offshoot. From their remarkable state of preservation, these ruins are far more interesting, both to the archæologist and artist, than most monastic remains. The foundations of the church and other portions have recently been unearthed [Wilts, Dorset, &c., 1882.]

at the expense of their present owner, Mr. Luttrell, of Dunster, under the able superintendence of the late Rev. Mackenzie Walcott. The farm-buildings which covered the site of the *Ch.* have been entirely cleared away, and the whole area laid bare.

The abbey buildings were surrounded by a moat. The gatehouse, embroidered with ferns, is a structure of the time of Richard II., with additions made to it by Will. Dovell, the last abbot. Over the arch of entrance is an inscription admitting of a double meaning,

Porta patens esto

Nulli claudaris honesto.

Above this is a square-headed window, of late Perp., surmounted by 3 niches, the centre containing a sculptured crucifix.

Entering by the W. cloister door, we have to our l., on the N. side of the quadrangle, the remains of the *Ch.*

Facing us on the E. side is the dormitory of E. E. date, measuring 137 ft. 6 in. by 24 ft. 3 in., lighted by a row of unglazed and shutterless lancets, raised on a vaulted substructure, and communicating with the S. transept of the *Ch.* by a door and staircase still to be traced. The dormitory is reached from the cloister by a fine E. E. door, with shafts of blue lias, altered in Perp. times, and a stone staircase. It is now divided across by a rude modern wall. It is almost the most perfect conventual dormitory existing. The small arched room under the N. end of the dormitory was the sacristy; it is surrounded by aumbries, and has a fine piscina on the S. wall, with a projecting basin, and side ledges for the cruets. The wall at the back has some very pretty decorative painting. The conjecture that the large circular aperture at the E. of this room was used for removing a monk's corpse into the conventual burying-ground, is negatived by the position of the altar

immediately below it. Beyond this is the entrance to a chamber lighted by a single lancet. That is succeeded by the entrance into the chapter-house, a beautiful E. E. doorway, between 2 two-light windows, with chamfered mouldings and blue lias shafts. The western part of the chapter-house below the dormitory retains its low vaulting, the eastern bay rose higher, and was lighted from the E. N. and S. Next we have the stairs to the dormitory; the slype, a passage to the cemetery, from which is the entrance to the calefactory, a monks' day-room, nearly 70 ft. long, divided into two alleys by a central arcade, and lighted with 2-light windows at the S. end.

On the S. side of the quadrangle, to the rt., stands the refectory of the 15th centy., the work of the last Abbot, William Dovell; a very stately building, with 5 fine traceried windows to the N. and 4 to the S. The usual position of the refectory in Cistercian houses was, as at Beaulieu and Rievaulx, at right angles to the cloister, and a magnificent pavement of encaustic tiles, bearing the arms of Clare, and of Richard King of the Romans, has recently been laid bare, marking its site. The position of the present refectory, parallel to the ch., as in Benedictine houses, is exceptional. It stands on an E. E. substructure, and is approached by a handsome staircase, to the l. of which is the monks' lavatory. The hall is 51 ft. long and 22 ft. broad, and still retains its beautiful carved hammer-beam roof, with angel corbels. On the E. wall may still be traced an ancient fresco painting of the Crucifixion, and on the S. side the place of the reading pulpit. Further W. are the windows of the buttery, and the Abbot's parlour, and the entrance to the kitchen and offices. The W. side of the cloisters to the N. of the entrance was also rebuilt by the Abbot Dovell. It seems

to have been divided into carols for study, lighted by fine Perp. windows. Here may be traced the remains of the *Domus Conversorum*, a house of the lay brothers. The other walks of the cloister were a mere pentice. To the N. of the cloister *garth* is the S. wall of the Ch. In the centre a trefoiled archway marks the seat of the claustral prior.

The Ch., of which only the foundations remain, was 161 ft. in length, of the purest Cistercian type, consisting of a nave of 5 bays, with cylindrical pillars, fragments of which remain, a low central tower, short transepts, each with two square chapels, and a shallow aisleless presbytery. The whole appears to have been in the Trans. and E. E. style. The foundations of the walls supporting the stalls and of the western screen of the ritual choir may be traced. Portions of the exquisite encaustic tile pavement are carefully protected by glass. Bishop Hooper, the martyred Bishop of Gloucester, had in his early days been a monk of Old Cleeve.

A shady lane leads N.W. to *Old Cleeve*. The remains of a wayside cross will be passed midway between Washford and the Ch., an interesting building, the floor slanting upwards from the tower to the chancel. The tower is a fine Perp. structure in 3 stages, with a band of tracery in the middle story. The roofs of the nave and S. aisle have bosses and angel corbels, and carved wall-plates. Portions of the rood-screen do duty as a reredos. The font is Perp. Under an *ogee* arch is the effigy of a layman, c. 1410-1440, with a cat watching a mouse at his feet. "Such sculptured effigies of laymen of this date are very rare." (*M. K. B.*) In the churchyard stands another old cross in a fair state of preservation. The site of the *Chapel of our Lady of Cleeve*, much frequented by worshippers in mediæval times,

of which some fragments still exist (as well as portions of a house of the 14th cent.), is nearer *Blue Anchor*.

At Washford the rly. returns to the coast and reaches

Blue Anchor (21 m.), a quiet cosy little watering-place, with a large and comfortable Inn, and a few lodging houses for visitors who prize rest and retirement, seated on rising ground by the side of the salt marsh which extends to Minehead. It commands one of the most beautiful prospects in the county, and for this reason should be visited by travellers who find their way to Dunster or Minehead. Around the alluvial plain to the W. of it the hilly ranges circle in amphitheatrical order, wild and heath-covered, sweeping in undulating outline from Minehead to the Quantocks. In advance of them rises the towered cone of Dunster, and through the vista of the valley of Avill looms the giant Dunkery.

The shore here is interesting. To the E. is a remarkable headland of rock of a dull green colour, intersected in every direction by ramifying lines of alabaster. Both in form and colour it bears some resemblance to a berg of Polar ice. The strata are curved and contorted, and, dipping to the sea, have become caverned in a singular manner. They overlie the new red sandstone, which appears again within $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of Watchet. The alabaster occurs in irregular veins, either white or of a cornelian red. It is largely collected and ground for cement. The sea here retires for a long distance, and at low water spring-tides exposes the fossil remains of a submerged forest. Compressed ammonites, having the iridescent nacre, may be found on the beach.

The rly. runs along the shore of the Channel, with wide views across the sea to the Welsh shore, and the mountains beyond.

1 m. W. is *Marshwood Farm*, an old house of the Luttrells, rebuilt by George Luttrell, of Dunster, c. 1620, mentioned by Leland. The porch contains some curious bas-reliefs in plaster, removed from the interior, by the same hand as those in Dunster Castle, and in the Luttrell Arms Inn. *Aller*, the manor-house of the Everards, also mentioned by Leland, 1 m. further inland, has some ancient portions.

22 m. *Carhampton*. The *Ch.* was restored in 1870, and the tower rebuilt. The chancel screen is painted and gilt. This village gives the title to the hundred. Left, 1 m. S.E. up a glen, lies the village of *Withycombe*, with a *Perp. Ch.*, beyond which is a pretty combe running up into the hills. On one side of the hills above the village is the supposed site of a British village; and in a lane leading to it, the conjunction of the red sandstone with the Devonian series may be observed.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. *Sandhill*, built in 1588, was formerly the residence of a branch of the Escott family, but now a farmhouse.

23 m. **DUNSTER** (*Inn: Luttrell Arms*; Pop. 1120), a characteristic specimen of an old English town, with its quaint steep streets, its picturesque market-cross, its old houses, with pentices projecting on brackets, and the ivied towers of the castle closing the vista.

Dunster is situated in the midst of the most beautiful scenery in Somersetshire, so that a stranger may well amuse himself here for some days by exploring the neighbourhood. The chief points of interest are the castle and its park, the view from Grabhurst Hill, the ruins of Cleeve Abbey, *Blue Anchor*, Minehead, Porlock, Culbone, and Dunkery Beacon. The fisherman will find in the little river trout and eels, and near the sea salmon and mullet.

Copper coins of Maximian and Constantine prove that Dunster was inhabited in the time of the Romans. Nothing certain is known of its history till the reign of Edward the Confessor, when, we learn from Domesday, it formed part of the property of one Alluric. It was then known by the name of *Torre*, but by the year 1100 it had acquired the prefix it has ever since retained, being called *Dunestora* in a grant of the date of the advowson of the Church to the monks of St. Peter's, Bath, by William de Mohun. The Manor was granted by the Conqueror to William de Moion, as one of the 68 manors held by him in the W. of England, and here he erected his castle. Dunster remained in the hands of his descendants for nearly three centuries and a half. After the death of John de Mohun in 1376, the reversion was sold by his widow, Lady Joan, to Lady Elizabeth Luttrell, second cousin to the Black Prince, in the possession of whose descendants it has remained till the present day. In 1360 Dunster returned members to Parliament for the first and last time.

Dunster Castle, "the Alnwick of the West," is not open to the public; but the grounds may be seen on Mondays and Fridays by application at the gardener's house. It crowns Tor, where it slopes to the valley of Avill, in full view of the wild height of Grabhurst, of the sea-coast, and of the beautiful Castle park. A Castle was erected here by William de Mohun in the 12th century, and held by him in opposition to King Stephen, as a centre from which he devastated the whole country round. Stephen appeared against Dunster, but despaired of taking by assault a place of such extraordinary strength; he therefore surrounded the castle with his forces to keep Mohun in check, and retired, delegating his authority to Henry de Tracy

of Barnstaple, who stopped Mohun's predatory sallies. Between the 12th and the 17th cents. the annals of Dunster are uneventful. In the civil wars of the latter century it occupied a distinguished place. In 1642 the castle was held by Mr. Luttrell for the Parliament, and the failure of the Marquis of Hertford, who had taken up a strong position at Minehead, to get possession of it, caused it to be regarded as impregnable. The Royalist successes in the W. led Mr. Luttrell to surrender the castle in 1643, and it was garrisoned for the king and held by his forces till 1646, Colonel Francis Windham being the governor. During this period Prince Charles, afterwards Charles II., paid the castle a visit, and slept in the room which still bears his name. In 1645 the tide had turned, and Dunster was the only place held for the king in Somerset; but, isolated as it was, ineffectually, except as a means of annoyance to the district immediately around it. As it was desirable to stop even this, Blake and Sydenham, with a small party from Taunton, laid siege to Dunster early in November. Windham turning a deaf ear to Blake's repeated summons to surrender, the latter pushed forward his earthworks, batteries, and mines, determined to end the business. The besieged replied with countermines, and, hard pressed as they were for provisions, continued to hold out with the utmost resolution. Several furious attempts having failed, a strong force sent by Lord Hopton managed to reach Dunster and relieve the castle on February 5th, forcing Blake to retire. Blake, however, continued the blockade till Exeter and Barnstaple having fallen, Fairfax sent a regiment to strengthen him, and the king's cause being seen to be hopeless, Windham surrendered the castle, April 19, after a close siege of 160 days. The surrender of Dunster ended the struggle

in Somerset, and finally destroyed the power of the king. An ordinance issued from the Parliament that the castle should be dismantled, and a rate was levied in the district for that purpose. The order, however, happily was not carried into effect, and two years later, 1648, Prynne was sent to confinement there by Cromwell, finding a congenial employment in searching and arranging the family muniments.

The earliest part of the existing building is the entrance gateway, which, together with the projecting semicircular towers and the thick wall which connects them, was probably built by Reginald Mohun the second, d. 1258. The gatehouse, which spans the road from the N.W., the "fair tourre by north cummyng into the castle," erroneously ascribed by Leland to Sir Hugh Luttrell the second, temp. Henry VII., was more probably built by the earlier Sir Hugh, who we know executed much architectural work at the castle, c. 1417. It abuts against and partly incorporates one of the flanking towers of the earlier gateway. His son, Sir John, strengthened it by the erection of two buttresses on the N. side. The two shields over the W. arch, impaling the arms of Luttrell and Courtenay, commemorate the marriage of Sir John's son, Sir James, with Elizabeth Courtenay of Powderham, as well as that of his great grandfather, Andrew Luttrell, with Lady E. Courtenay, the purchaser of Dunster. The present S. front was erected by Henry Fownes Luttrell, d. 1780, on the formation of the artificial platform in 1764, which came up to the line of the upper story of the gatehouse and buried the lower part. The Perp. doorway was removed from another part of the castle. The present owner has converted the upper stories into one large room, 46 ft. long. The adapta-

tion of the old fortress to modern requirements was carried out by George Luttrell, d. 1629, at the beginning of the 17th cent. The plaster ceiling of the hall, and plaster mantelpieces, and many of the existing doors and windows may be attributed to him. The elaborate ceilings of the staircase and parlour are due to Francis Luttrell, 1681. He married the heiress of the Tregonwells of Milton Abbey, whose arms are impaled with his on the parlour ceiling. It continued as fitted up by him till a recent period, when great changes and improvements have been effected by the present proprietor, Mr. George Fownes Luttrell, from the designs of the late Mr. Salvin. The N. tower of the principal façade was replaced by a larger one with projecting stair-turret. The porch was rebuilt on a larger scale, and an additional story was added to the greater part of the edifice. A lofty tower was erected on the S. front on the site of an incongruous chapel built in 1720. The hall was enlarged by throwing rooms into it, and the whole house converted into a splendid and comfortable residence.

The Norm. keep of the Mohuns has entirely perished. The summit of the lofty Tor is occupied by a bowling-green. It was formerly known as Mount Stephens, from a chapel dedicated to the first martyr and mentioned as early as 1254.

The interior of the castle is full of interest, and is magnificently fitted up. The *Hall* has an embossed ceiling with pendants, and contains a portrait of Cromwell by ~~Vandyck~~ *Ward*, and a singular picture by Lucas de Heere in 1550, restored in 1591, absurdly said to represent Sir John Luttrell (temp. Henry VIII.) saving the lady of his love from drowning; the supposed lady being really a young man with a moustache. The picture is probably partly allegorical, with reference to some event

(now unknown) in Sir John's life. In the background is a man-of-war struck by lightning and deserted by its crew. Semi-nude female figures appear in the clouds above, the chief bearing a sprig of olive. The *Great Staircase* has elaborately-carved balustrades, polished steps and rich stucco ceiling, 1681; *Prince Charles' Room* has a mantelpiece ornamented with coarse reliefs in stucco, dated 1620. The ancient *corámi* or leather hangings, painted in imitation of tapestry, certainly of Italian, probably of Venetian manufacture, date from the 17th cent., the subject being the history of Antony and Cleopatra. Among some stuffed specimens of birds in the castle are a white rook, and a blackbird spotted grey as by age.

Passing beneath the gatehouse, the visitor—noting on the way the iron-studded door and flanking drum-tower on the rt.—will be conducted to the terrace to the S. of the castle, where his attention will be drawn to a remarkable lemon-tree trained against the wall, and bearing fruit in great plenty; and to the yew hedge, some 50 ft. high, through a gap of which is seen a little bridge, crossing the sparkling stream. He will then be led by a circling walk to the summit of the wooded hill on which the Norm. *Keep* of the Mohuns stood, now a bowling-green. Here, through openings in the trees, are a series of enchanting views: through one the town of Minehead and its hills; through another Blue Anchor, the rocky islets of the Holmes, and a distance of Welsh mountain; a third will show him the glens and straggling oaks of the park; and a fourth, the valley of Avill in long perspective to the brown sides of Dunkery. Around the wooded hill are numerous shady walks, which here and there give a peep through a gap of a glittering eddy in the stream, or the wheel of a water-mill. On the lawn there is

an excellent echo, which will 3 times repeat the blast of a bugle horn.

The *Ch.*, though of inferior workmanship, is one of some size and dignity, 157 ft. in length from E. to W., cruciform, with a central tower, and with points of special ecclesiological interest. The minster type it displays is explained by Dunster having been a cell of Bath Abbey, originally founded here by Sir William de Mohun, in the reign of the Conqueror. Of this some fragments still exist among the buildings of the adjacent farm, N. of the choir, including the prior's lodgings, with square-headed windows, and the conventual dovecot. The great barn of the monks is a prominent feature in the landscape from many points of view. There is documentary evidence that the tower, of stately outline rising in 3 stories above the roof, was built in 1419, and this date would probably suit the larger part of the edifice, though it has a Norm. W. door, and earlier fragments are to be seen within. That which makes this ch. specially remarkable is the peculiarity of its internal arrangements. On entering, it will be seen that the whole space E. of the tower is cut off, the altar being under the eastern tower-arch. Nor is this a modern arrangement, as is proved by the existence of a noble rood-screen *in situ*, and the rood-turret, some distance to the W. of the tower. "This rood-turret is the key to the history of this church."—(*E. A. F.*) In fact Dunster Church, like many conventual churches, contains two churches under one roof. This has been so at least since 1499, when, in consequence of a dispute between the vicar of the parish and the prior of the cell, such as was continually arising in mediæval times, when the same building was shared by two parties (see *Sherborne ante*), it was decided by the Abbot of Glastonbury that the monastic choir should be resigned to the sole use of the monks,

and that the parishioners should make themselves a new choir in the nave. Accordingly the nave is still used for the parish services, while the choir, having at the Dissolution passed into the possession of the owners of Dunster Castle, was for a long time (as at Arundel) allowed to fall into a lamentable state of neglect. The whole has recently been restored in the most munificent manner by Mr. Luttrell, under the direction of the late Mr. Street, R.A. The altar, which originally stood under the western tower-arch, has been transferred to the eastern arch, and behind it a low solid screen has been erected, keeping up the original division of the chancel from the nave. The chancel is admirably fitted with oak stalls, and is used for daily prayers. The effect of the nave within is solemn if not gloomy, owing to its extreme width and lowness, and the absence of a clerestory. It is divided from the aisles by tall well-proportioned Perp. arcades, 6 arches to S., 4 to N. The N. aisle is shortened by two bays, where the Prior's house abutted upon it. The ceilings are coved, with carved ribs and bosses, except in the S. aisle, which has a rich flat-panelled ceiling. The piers of one of the original Norman arches of the lantern may be seen on the W. side of the tower, though a later arch, corresponding to the date of the tower, has been constructed beyond. The visitor should notice the very whimsical device for making a wide opening of a narrow one in the eccentric arch opening from the S. transept to the S. aisle of the choir. A narrow E.E. arch has been raised on moulded jambs, bent outward immediately below the capitals, producing a wider shouldered aperture of very ugly form. The presbytery of two bays has been rebuilt by Mr. Street in the E. E. style, with an eastern triplet, following the indications of the original structure. There is a

chantry to the N. containing a fine altar-slab with its 5 crosses. Between it and the presbytery is the rich canopied altar-tomb of Sir Hugh Luttrell, 1428, and his lady, 1433. On the S. wall of the presbytery a beautiful late Dec. ogee canopy covers the effigy of a lady of the Everard family. There is also an incised stone slab of Eliz. Luttrell, d. 1493. In the N. chapel is a massive stone altar of the earlier part of the 13th cent. In the S. aisle of the nave is a brass dated 1495, with an English inscription ending in Latin. The font is a fair Perp. one, carved with emblems of the Passion, and there is a little wood screen-work, and some ancient tiles.

After the Ch. the *Luttrell Arms Inn* claims attention. It has a stone porch with openings for cross-bows, and a wing with a good open roof and an elaborately-carved façade of oak. There is a carved ceiling in the commercial-room, an emblazoned escutcheon of the Luttrells in an upper chamber, and in one of the bedrooms a chimneypiece richly ornamented with sculptures, representing 2 full-length female figures dressed in the style of Elizabeth, the fable of Actæon, coats of arms, and other devices. At the back of the house are remains of a chapel, and in the kitchen a huge fireplace. On the hill beyond the garden are the earthworks thrown up by the Parliamentary army during the siege of the castle.

The *Yarn Market*, an ancient picturesque octagonal structure of wood, with wide-spreading pentice, "its effect about as perfect as may be," *E. A. F.*, recalls the time when Dunster was of importance for the manufacture of kerseymeres, which are mentioned in an Act of Parliament of James I., under the name of "Dunsters." It was built by George Luttrell, c. 1600, and repaired by his

grandson of the same name in 1647, a year after Blake's siege. The vane bears his initials. One of the timbers of the building has been pierced by a cannon-shot from the castle.

In the street leading to the Ch. is a very curious wooden building of the 15th cent., with 3 overhanging stories, and a tall gable, retaining some old staircases and some windows of earlier date. It has the local name of the "Nunnery."

The *park* affords scope for an extensive ramble. It occupies one of the rough hills here descending in numberless knolls to the lower country. Its sides are seamed by dingles and glens, in which grow irregular woods of oak. A walk to the old Roman camp on *Gallows Hill*, or further to *Batt's Castle*, on *Croydon Hill*, should be an object with every one. The way lies through the *deer-park*, which is several miles in circumference, up a rugged hollow by the side of a brook. The view embraces the great offshoots of Exmoor, the Quantock Hills, and the coast both of Somerset and Wales. Grabhurst lies to the N.W., and S. are the woods about Luxborough, and the dark ridge of Brendon, 1210 ft. above the sea. On Croydon are several *hut circles*, or remains of ancient British habitations.

Grabhurst Hill is a loftier but more accessible height for the study of this glorious landscape. It rises immediately from Dunster, to an elevation of 906 ft., the Tor and Conygar being the steps which lead up to it. From the turnpike on the Timberscombe road there is a path to the summit which commands a view of the grand mass of Dunkery, the sea, and distant coast. On the southern slope are remains of the terraces, on which stood the racks for drying the cloth, or "Dunsters," formerly made in this neighbourhood. The name Grabhurst signifies the entrenched wood. Deep on the S.W. side of this hill, about 3 m. from Dunster, is

Wootton Courtenay, a village so named from the noble family who possessed it of old, and of interest for the beauty of its position and the carving of the capitals of the Ch. The pillars separating nave and aisle are ornamented with sculptured figures of St. Christopher, St. Lawrence, &c.; the font also deserves notice, and the columnar holy-water stoup in the porch. The churchyard has the panelled base of a cross and a venerable yew-tree. S. of Grabhurst lies *Timberscombe* (pronounced Immercombe)—with its manor-house of *Bickham*.

Conygar Hill, the far-seen landmark of Dunster, is another beautiful point of view. It forms a pyramid of foliage, crowned by the picturesque shell of a tower, erected as a prospect-house about 1775, and from its prominent position is a well-known sea-mark. Conygar is a corruption of Coney Garth, the rabbit enclosure, and designates the warren, the usual appendage of a country mansion in mediæval times.

Near the rly. stat., on the level toward the channel, lies *Lower Marsh Farm*, where there still exist a very curious small Perp. oratory over the porch, and traces of an open-roofed hall.

[There is a pretty lane between Grabhurst and Conygar, leading from Dunster to Alcombe, where it joins the main road. At a cross road, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Dunster, is a fine roadside cross.

A beautiful drive can be taken from Dunster through Timberscombe, ascending the long hill behind the church to Couple Cross, and then, passing by the lonely village and church of *Luxborough* (rt. *Chargot Lodge*, J. H. Insoll, Esq.), descend through a wooded valley of great beauty for some miles to Cleve Abbey and Washford, and so re-

turning to Dunster, through Carhampton.

From Dunster to Dulverton, 14 m., is one of the most romantic drives in the country. The road passes through deep wooded valleys, and for some distance along the banks of the Exe; having reached the watershed at Wheddon Cross.]

24 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **MINEHEAD**, commonly pronounced *Minyard* (*Inn*: Railway Hotel, Feathers; Pop. 1605), seated under a bold promontory called *Greenaleigh*, 690 ft. high, the E. point of a wild range of hills extending along the coast to Porlock, one of the grandest features of the coast of the Bristol Channel. This town, which returned 2 Members of Parliament till it was disfranchised by the Reform Bill, consists of 3 detached parts, the *Upper Town* on the hill, the *Lower Town*, and the *Quay Town*, the last $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant from the inn by an elm-shaded road along the shore. Minehead in times past had a considerable trade, particularly in the export of woollen goods, and of herrings to the Mediterranean, of which as many as 4000 barrels were shipped annually before the herrings left this part of the coast. From the former it derived its arms, a ship under sail and a woolpack. The Quay was built by Geo. Luttrell, 1616, at the cost of 5000*l*. Minehead was a favourite landing-place from Ireland 200 years ago. At the present day it is of no mercantile consequence, but a pleasant and cheap little watering-place, the neighbourhood being very beautiful and the climate mild. There are good sands and a shingle beach, with bathing-machines.

Minehead was in early times subject to incursions from the Welsh, from across the Channel. Rishanger tells us that in 1265, the Sunday before the battle of Evesham, this district was devastated by a multitude of Welshmen under William of Berkeley,

landing at Minehead, but who were routed by Adam of Gurdon, constable of Dunster, who put many to the sword, and drove many with their captain into the sea, where they miserably perished.

In 1642, the Marquis of Hertford having come into Somerset to raise forces for the king, having been driven from Wells and Sherborne, took refuge with about 400 men at Minehead, September 19, and having fortified himself "in a strong inn," endeavoured to obtain possession of Dunster Castle, then held by Mr. Luttrell for the Parliament. Mortified with the failure of this attempt, he crossed over from Minehead in a coal ship to Wales. Having afterwards surrendered to the king, Dunster became a most disagreeable neighbour to all the country round, and Minehead showed its joy on the fall of the castle in 1646, and "gave the ringers 4*s*. 8*d*." when Dunster was yielded.

The *Ch.*, in the Upper Town, possesses some remarkable features, and derives a certain amount of attractiveness from its striking position. It is dedicated to St. Michael, whose image appears in a niche on the E. side of the tower. Another niche on the S. side enshrines a representation of the 2 first Persons of the Trinity. Within it is very wide, and has no chancel arch. It contains a monument, said to be of Bracton, the famous lawyer, but of much later date, and evidently that of a priest. It has been much mutilated, and the chalice in the hands of the figure is broken. Some years ago it was opened, and a skeleton found in it, the skull of which had 2 rows of upper teeth, one within the other. The Communion Table is richly carved. The font is carved with figures in niches. The magnificent rood-loft still remains, the ascent to it being by the original stone staircase, which is well designed. There is a *Statue* of Queen

Anne, in alabaster, presented by Sir Jacob 'Bancks, a Swede by birth, who holding a commission in the English navy, in 1696 married the rich widow of Col. Francis Luttrell, and through her influence represented this borough in nine successive parliaments. A beautiful new *Ch.*, from the late Mr. Street's designs, has been recently built in the centre of the town by the liberality of a lady. In the churchyard is an ancient cross on steps.

The *Feathers Inn* is an old house, with an antique fireplace.

There are many old houses at Minehead, several of which have round chimneys, like those in the neighbourhood of Tenby. The ancient houses and cottages at Minehead and the adjacent villages are remarkable for the massiveness of the woodwork in which the outer doors are fixed, and especially of the top piece, the lower edge of which is usually hewn out into an obtuse angle.

Minehead contains a row of 11 small almshouses erected by Robert Quirek in 1630, as is testified by a curious inscription on a brass plate placed upon the front of the centre house. Near to these almshouses is the shaft of an ancient cross.

There is a beautiful view from the churchyard hill, called North Hill. The easiest path is by the E. of the church. Advancing from the top of the hill over the turf and through a gate, you come suddenly on the edge of a precipice, with the sea 300 ft. below. The quay, pier, bay, and warren spread out like a map. The path descending on the l. joins the Greenaleigh Road.

If the level top of the hill is pursued, at $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. a pretty combe runs down on the l. to the hamlet of Woodcombe, whence you may return to Minehead along the valley. But if you follow the road on the hill, you come to East Myne Farm, where a rough descending path on the rt. branches off to *Grixy*, a most ro-

mantic gorge leading down to the sea. A good scramble is here necessary, but the trouble is well repaid, and, if care is taken, you can follow one of the sheep-tracks on the precipitous side of the hill, and so return to Greenaleigh Farm, pass ia pretty glen, called *Bergundy* (see *post*). Greenaleigh Farm is deprived of the sun's rays 3 months in the year by the shadow of the hill. Here is a room for visitors and picnic parties. It is a pleasant walk of 1 m. back to the quay.

Excursions may be made to Porlock, Culbone, Dunster, Blue Anchor, and the ruins of Cleve Abbey. In Watchet Bay, E. of Minehead, abundant remains of a fossil forest are exposed in low spring-tides.

The rly. ceases at Minehead; the rest of the route to Porlock and thence to Lynton (20 posting miles) is by road. It is one of the most beautiful drives in the West of England, presenting scenery of the most varied character, with sea views of great extent. During the summer months a coach runs in connection with the trains between Minehead and Lynton. On each side of the road rise hills of varied outline, covered with heaths and ferns, and other moorland plants; whilst the rugged valley charms by its abundant woods, delightfully grouped over broken ground, and mingled with cornfields.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. under *North Hill* lies *Bratton Court*, the birthplace of *Henry de Bracton*, a judge in the reign of Henry III., but chiefly distinguished by his treatise on the Common Law of England. The house is an old timbered quadrangular mansion, now ruthlessly modernised; but the "Judge's chamber," traditionally said to have been Bracton's study, is still pointed out over the gateway. In a small and secluded glen on the coast, at or about the point nearest to Bratton Court, may be seen the

foundations of what was probably an ancient hermitage, and which now bear the local name of *Bergundy Chapel*. Access to these ruins may be had through Greenaleigh Farm, which is a favourite walk from the town of Minehead. 1. *Heyden Down*, a continuation of Grabhurst, from which a view may be obtained of Minehead on the one side, and of Porlock on the other.

$4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Holnicote*, a hamlet of pretty creeper-bound cottages, deriving its name from *holegn* or *holen*, Anglo-Saxon for the holly. Left is the park of *Holnicote* (Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart.); the house has been twice much injured by fire, in 1799, and again in 1851. It has been recently much enlarged. Its timbered slopes are seen in combination with the huge side of Dunkery, and a middle distance of hollow, wooded glens. Rt. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. at the entrance of a deep nook among the hills lies the little village of

Selworthy. A stream flows through it on a rocky bed; and above it, on the western hill, are the ramparts of an ancient camp called *Bury Castle*. *Selworthy* churchyard, in which stands a fine 14th-cent. cross, commands an unrivalled view of Dunkery and the valley between. The *Ch.* has good clustered pillars, a singularly ornamented roof, and a curious manor pew over the S. door. An ancient tithe barn may be noticed on the way up the hill to the church. Up the steep ascent from the Porlock road, on the opposite side from the *Ch.*, Sir T. D. Acland's *Free Cottages*, or almshouses, stand pleasantly at the foot of the plantations, through which paths cut afford delightful views. In the hamlet of *Tivington* or *Blacksford* in this parish is an ancient chapel, and priest's-house annexed, used as a dame's school. The view of Porlock Bay from the door of the chapel is fine.

On the l. is the pretty village of

Luccombe, 2 m. E. of Porlock, through which flows a stream which rises at Dunkery. The *Ch.* is a handsome building, and contains an ancient stone altar in the belfry, and several interesting monuments of the *Byam* family, including one of the Rev. H. Byam, D.D., who was born in this parish, and was afterwards rector of it. He was an ardent follower and faithful friend of Charles I., and assisted in raising troops in his favour, in which 4 of his sons were captains. He suffered not only the loss of all he possessed, but his wife and daughter, attempting to escape from their persecutors, were drowned in their passage to Wales. He himself attended Prince Charles as chaplain to the Island of Scilly, and thence to Jersey, and lived to see the restoration of the Royal family. A fine old cross stands at the E. end of the *Ch.* Opposite the *ch.* is a cottage with a curious ancient window, which should be examined from the inside.

From *Holnicote*, passing *Brandy Street*, another hamlet, embowered by the rose and woodbine, the traveller descends into the vale of Porlock, and soon crosses a mountain stream, the *Horner*, which flows from Dunkery by a romantic valley. A ramble up this beautiful valley should by all means be taken. It is full of romantic scenery. A whole day may be well spent amidst its streams and woods. A pathway to the rt. beyond the meeting of the 2 streams at the end of the valley winds up to *Stoke Pero* (3 m. S. of Porlock) with its curious little *Ch.* and few scattered cottages.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Porlock (Inn: Ship)*. The cosy little inn has entertained among its guests the poet Southey, who here,

"By the unwelcome summer rain confined," composed a sonnet by the alehouse fire.

"Porlock ! thy verdant vale, so fair to sight,
 Thy lofty hills which fern and furze embrown,
 Thy waters that roll musically down
 Thy woody glens, the traveller with
 delight
 Recalls to memory."

Porlock—the "enclosed port"—in a fertile vale about 1 m. from the sea, in an amphitheatre of hills, formed by the dark masses of Exmoor. It is a picturesque village ; its thatched cottages clothed with roses and myrtles, and washed by the rapid waters of a stream which issues from a gorge in Dunkery. In Saxon times it had a chase, and was considered a town of some importance, and on more than one occasion it was selected by the Danes for their piratical inroads. It was the scene of a more serious attack, when Harold and his brother Leofwine, on their return from their banishment in Ireland, landed here with nine ships and formed a camp. Though they came as deliverers, their enterprise was looked on with suspicion by the men of Devon and Somerset, who met them in arms. After a severe conflict, in which "more than 30 good thanes and much other folks were slain, the exiles had the victory. Harold carried off goods, cattle, and men, and sailed off round the Land's End to meet Earl Godwin, his father." The remains of their camp are shown S. of the ch.

Porlock gives name to a breed of small horned sheep. Their mutton is delicious, but they are hard to keep, as they leap over every barrier.

The *Ch.* is dedicated to St. Dubritius, Bishop of Llandaff, and metropolitan of Caer Leon, d. 522, a fact indicating, like the dedication to St. Decuman at Watchet (see *ante*), that this part of Somersetshire was evangelised from South Wales. It is a long, weather-beaten building,

chiefly of Perp date, with E. E. remains in the E. window and piscina. It has a S. aisle and W. tower, surmounted by a truncated shingled spire, "forlorn-looking and dilapidated." Its chief attraction is a very sumptuous altar-tomb beneath an elaborately-ornamented canopy, now mutilated and awkwardly jambed into the easternmost arch of the aisle. The tomb supports the effigies of a knight and his lady, identified by the researches of Mrs. Halliday (*The Porlock Monuments*, 1882) with John, 4th Baron Harington of Aldingham, d. 1417, and his wife, the Lady Elizabeth Courtenay (d. of the 3rd Earl of Devon, afterwards wife of Lord Bonville of Chewton), d. 1472, the founders of the adjoining chantry. Lord Harington is in complete armour; his head, resting on his tilting helmet, covered with a bascinet surrounded by a wreath richly sculptured with roses and leaves. He wears a cuirass, and a skirt of taces and scalloped flaps ; a richly-sculptured bawdrick encircles the hips, a belt, falling diagonally, carries a long sword, the hilt bearing the sacred monogram. The lady wears the mitred headdress, encircled by a coronet of fleur-de-lis, indicating her princely birth. She is clad in a mantle fastened by tasselled cordons, beneath which she wears the surcoat and kirtle, with an ornamented girdle. She has a double chain round her neck. On the N. side of the sacarium is a very richly panelled altar-tomb, probably the base of the Easter sepulchre. Towards the W. end of the S. aisle are two roundheaded E. E. recesses, one containing a cross-legged military effigy supposed to be that of Sir Simon Fitz Roges, temp. Richard I. An ancient sacristy projects from the E. wall. The octagonal font is Perp. The churchyard contains the broken shaft of a cross, and a venerable yew-tree surrounded by a seat. A common country epitaph illus-

trates a peculiarity of the Somersetshire dialect:—

“As us am, so must you be,
Therefore prepare to follow we.”

1½ m. distant is the port or *Quay*, usually called Porlock Weir, where there is an Inn (the *Anchor*) with excellent accommodation. The port is formed by a pier built across a considerable tract of land overflowed by tide between huge bank of pebbles and the base of the hill. The shore makes a deep curve, and is fringed by a barrier of pebbles between Porlock and Bossington, otherwise Orestone Point, 2 m.

[The *excursions* to be made from Porlock are to the summits of Dunkery Beacon and Bossington Hill, and to the romantic hamlet of Culbone by Ashley Combe. A person remaining here any time should also explore the glens under Exmoor, the courses of the Horner and other wild streams.

Dunkery Beacon, the most elevated point of Exmoor and of Somersetshire, rises at once from the vale of Porlock to a height of 1668 ft. above the sea, commanding a view which should be an object with every visitor to this neighbourhood. It is a dark brown moorland hill, “whose Celtic name has an appropriate sound among the remains of primæval times with which it is crowned.”—*E. A. F.* Its heathery slopes, free of rocks, offer little impediment to its ascent, which may be accomplished riding, or even driving almost to the Beacon, in about 4½ m. from Porlock, by the hamlet of *Horner*, or by the secluded little village of *Stoke Pero*. On the summit are remains of the hearths in which beacon-fires were formerly kindled, and which might have spread an alarm from the heights of Plymouth to those of the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire, for both these points, although nearly 150 m. apart, are visible from Dunkery on a clear

day. The horizon of this noble prospect has been calculated as 500 m., and as including in its panorama no less than 15 counties. Its leading features are the highlands hence to Lynton, distant Dartmoor, the Quantock and Mendip hills, the Bristol Channel, and the long mountain ranges of Wales. By a walk across the moor you may descend upon Culbone or Ashley Combe, and so return to Porlock.

Another way is by the delightful hill slope of *Cloutsham*, one of the minor eminences which skirt Dunkery, rising from a waving sheet of woodland, just swelling into a forest, renowned as a “meet” of the stag-hounds. The wild red deer may often be seen from this point browsing amongst the fern, or wandering from covert to covert. The first “meet” is a great event, and takes place usually on the Tuesday nearest to August 12th. Then the rough roads are filled with carriages, and often as many as 200 horsemen join in the sport. Apart from this, it is perhaps the most beautiful spot in the moor. On the one side there is the broad, bleak, heather-covered, side of Dunkery; on the other the beautifully-wooded slopes of Sweeteny and Horner; and beyond, as in a framed picture, a glimpse of the Bristol Channel, with Wales in the far distance. A brook brawls below, and a combe creeps winding up the hillside. For variety of scenery Cloutsham is unsurpassed.

Hawkcombe Head is another celebrated centre for the red-deer hunt. Here, 1880, the Prince of Wales joined in the hunt, from Dunster Castle, when at least 1500 horsemen, and some 20,000 persons on foot or in carriages, gathered as lookers-on.

Bossington Beacon is the W. end of North Hill; the ridge, extending from Minehead, bounding Porlock Bay on the E. It is 801 ft. above the sea, and owes its exceeding beauty in great measure to the

good taste of its proprietor Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, who has planted it with irregular woods of fir, not marshalled into line by fences, but scattered over the hill with the genuine feeling of an artist. If pressed for time, the traveller may give the preference to Bossington over Dunkery; the view from it being the more beautiful. He should walk to it through *Bossington*, 1 m. distant. In this little hamlet are rare scenes for the painter—a swift stream, rude old cottages, an ancient walnut-tree, and as a background the hill-side with its patches of fern, purple gullies of stones, dark-green furze-patches and waving woods. Along the summit of the Beacon are numerous paths, here and there provided with seats, of which some are cut from the living rock, from which the visitor may enjoy at his leisure the marvellous beauty of the prospect. The entire sea-front of Exmoor lies in view to its termination at the Lynmouth Foreland—at one time of a dark blue, at another partially veiled by the light mists from the ocean. Nearer at hand are the wooded glens below Dunkery, with a stream glittering in one of them; and above all the huge Beacon with its dark-brown sides. At the end of the hill, called *Orestone Point*, a craggy pathway descends to the beach, where the rocks are on a grand scale, and the strata curiously contorted. At the spot where you reach the shore there is a singularly-shaped cavern formed in a curved cliff of slate.

At *Lynch*, a little hamlet adjoining Bossington, is an old chapel with a good roof, formerly used as a barn, but now restored by Sir T. D. Acland.]

[To *Culbone*, 3 m., a hamlet placed like a nest in a nook of the coast, the habitat of *Asplenium septentrionale*. From Porlock Quay the road to it is

equally romantic—a horse path, now passable for carriages as far as Culbone, running midway along the steep slopes which descend to the sea, and throughout its course densely enveloped with coppice-wood. In 2 m. it reaches *Ashley Combe*, a summer residence of the Earl of Lovelace, perched as it were upon a narrow shelf, in full view of Porlock Bay and the Welsh coast. An opening, now closed to the public, used to admit you to a glen which is terminated by a most imposing amphitheatre chiselled in the moor-side by 5 streams which rattle down its heathery slopes. Another m. from *Ashley Combe* brings the traveller to *Culbone*, where a rivulet has scooped a hollow in the hill. Deep in this recess nestles the little hamlet of rustic cottages and a tiny Gothic church, 33 ft. by 12 ft., with singularly rude furniture, “situated,” says Warner, “in as extraordinary a spot as man, in his whimsicality, ever fixed on for a place of worship.” The little plain on which it stands is not above $\frac{1}{4}$ acre in extent: it is 400 ft. above the beach, and on either side hemmed in by dark wooded hills, which tower to a height of 1200 ft. A road ascends from it to the moor, by which, if willing to prolong the excursion, you can return to Porlock.]

From Porlock to Lynton the traveller has the choice of 2 roads; the highroad over the moor, which is very steep, but by which the coach goes; or a more modern road called the “New Road,” made by the late Colonel Blathwayt, which winds through the woods in a gradual ascent, by well-engineered zigzags, after the fashion of an Alpine pass. It is, however, considerably longer, and therefore not used by carriage drivers, unless they have special orders. It is a good road, and commands a view which many travellers have considered as fine as any in the

West of England. There is also a romantic horse-path which runs midway along the slopes of the coast from Porlock Quay to Countesbury, a village 2 m. short of Lynton. The latter passes by Culbene and Glenthorne (see *post*), and in and out of many a pretty dingle, threading for the greater part of the distance a dense oak coppice. It is called a horse-path, but a rider must have good nerves for the journey.

From the Weir we ascend Porlock Hill by a steep road, which joins the new road above mentioned, after many zigzags, at about 800 ft. above the sea-level. Having gained the summit we must bid adieu to cultivation, and prepare to face the winds of an unsheltered waste, on which for many a mile runs the road at an elevation of some 1100 ft. above the sea, commanding the breadth and length of the Bristol Channel, and the Welsh mountains beyond.

12½ m. Here, on the dark moor, we reach the boundary of Devon and Somerset, a fence and a gate intended to keep the half-wild sheep and ponies in their respective counties.

In the depths of a long valley on the left of the road from Porlock to Lynton lies the village of Oare. Through it runs the "*Badgeworthy Water*," which flows into the East Lyn, and is through its course the boundary between Devon and Somerset. Oare is the centre of the district so vividly described by Mr. Blackmore in his tale "*Lorna Doone*," and a visit to the "*Doone Glen*," the supposed stronghold of the old robber family, will well repay the trouble.

Rt., on the summit of a hill, is seen the camp of *Oldbarrow*, one of the most perfect in Devonshire, and far below it, in a deep dell by the sea,

Left is *Glenthorne*, the romantic residence of W. H. Halliday, Esq. By many a complicated zigzag a road descends to this charming retreat, where, some 50 ft. above the shore,

we find a house and gardens embosomed in woods, which rise above them on the slopes to a height of 1100 ft. E. of the house a path and stream descend by a shadowy dingle to the beach, and a labyrinth of walks track the hill-side among rocks and old oaks, many of the trees twisted in fanciful shapes, and one in particular forming an archway over the path. The house, which is occasionally shown to strangers, contains many curiosities—antiquities from Greece and Italy, a collection of armour, rare cabinets, and among some pictures the *Spectre Ship*, by *Severn*, in illustration of Coleridge's '*Ancient Mariner*.' In the servants'-hall there is a fireplace which tradition asserts once belonged to Cardinal Wolsey, and on Palermo Point, above the house, a group of marbles from Athens and Corinth.

15½ m. *Countesbury*. 1. beyond this wild hamlet are the ramparts of an ancient camp commanding the ravine of *Waters' Meet*. The road now rapidly descends towards the gorge of *Lyndale*.

16 m. *Lynmouth* (*Inn*: *Lyndale Hotel*), above which lies its sister town,

Lynton (*Inns*: *Castle Hotel*; *Valley of Rocks Hotel*; *Globe Inn*), far celebrated watering-places, which are fully described in the *Handbook for Devon and Cornwall*.

[*Exmoor*, which our route has now traversed from Porlock to Lynton, is a highland district still to a great extent uncultivated—a waste of dark hills and valleys, tracked by lonely streams. It attains its greatest elevation on the E., where *Dunkery Beacon* rises 1668 ft. above the sea; but on the W. its hills are of little inferior height, *Chapman Barrows* being 1540 ft., and *Span Head* 1610 ft. On its borders it is pierced by deep wooded ravines, of which the traveller has a magnificent example in *Lyndale*. The

central part of this region, about 20,000 acres, formed the ancient *Forest of Exmoor*, for which an Act of enclosure was obtained in 1815, by the late John Knight, Esq., of Wolverley Hall, Worcestershire, who proposed to bring it under cultivation. With this object he encircled the whole forest with a ring-fence, and commenced building a castellated mansion at *Simonsbath*, but the speculation proved anything but a golden one. A considerable acreage has, however, been brought under cultivation, and this is now leased in separate farms by the proprietor of the forest, the principal drawbacks to success being the strong winds and chilly mists which prevail in so elevated a district. Extensive tracts, however, still remain both in the forest and surrounding highlands in a state of nature, delighting the eye by the grandeur of their unbroken outline, and the rich beauty of their colour; and here, over slopes of heather, interspersed with the dwarf-juniper, cranberry, and whortleberry, roams the "Exmoor pony," a breed of the native English horse, and the red forest-deer, which still makes its lair in the extensive covers on the moor-side. The farmer seemed at one time likely to be driven by the miner from his settlement on Exmoor. In 1851 a specimen of the white carbonate of iron was sent by Mr. R. Smith to the Great Exhibition. Its value suggested the expediency of a further search, and this led to the discovery of abundant iron-lodes, including the hæmatites and other ores hitherto supposed peculiar to Staffordshire and Wales. Large districts of the moor were in the hands of 3 of the principal iron companies in the kingdom, viz., the Ulverstone of Lancashire, and the Dowlais and S. Wales. But the speculation failed, and the mining operations have ceased. A new district ch. was consecrated 1856. Before visiting Exmoor, Mr.

Blackmore's tale of "*Lorna Doone*" should be read for the old traditions it embodies, and its graphic descriptions.

Simonsbath, the seat of F. Knight, Esq., may be visited from Lynton, by *Ilford Bridges*, or in a walk or drive across the moor from Dulverton to Lynton, the inducement to the trip being the romantic wildness of the scenery. The house is situated in the centre of the forest, on the Barle, a tributary to the Exe, 9 m. from Lynton. The traveller leaves Dulverton by the grand defile of Lyndale, ascending into the moor from *Ilford Bridges*. Arrived in the upper region he will observe to the rt. the hills in which the Exe and Barle have their fountains, and in whose vicinity are the morasses called the *Black Pits* and *Mole's Chamber* (now cultivated), the last so named from an unfortunate farmer who was lost in it with his horse when hunting. He will proceed along a good and easy road to the entrance of the forest at the *double gates*, across the road, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. beyond it, in a most desolate part of the moor, cross the headwaters of the Exe, here draining from a bog called the *Chains*. In another $\frac{1}{2}$ m. he will open to view the valley of the Barle, and begin the long descent upon Simonsbath, the ruinous wall and flanking towers commenced by Mr. Knight skirting the road on the l. Simonsbath he will find a most romantic spot—a solitary settlement in a moorland valley, encircled by some fine old trees, originally planted as shelter to a rough house of entertainment which formerly stood here. The place consists of Mr. Knight's unfinished mansion, now a picturesque ruin, a small house adjoining it, occupied occasionally as a residence by the present lord of Exmoor, a farm-house where refreshments and a bed may be had, and various outbuildings, including the shop of a blacksmith, the yard of a carpenter, and the store

of a general dealer. In front the ground slopes to the Barle, whose foaming waters may be traced for some distance, glittering in a vista formed by wild heathy hills; and in the bed of this stream lies the original *Simon's Bath*, a deep pool, in which, according to the legend, a noted outlaw, once the terror of these moors, was accustomed to bathe. From this central point Mr. Knight, at great expense, cut roads across the forest, E. to Red Deer, 2 m., and Exford 5 m., S. to South Molton 11 m., W. to Challacombe 6 m., and to Lynton 9 m. By ascending for a short distance the hill towards Red Deer, you may gain a fine view of the dark walls of the ruin, which are seen from it to advantage rising among the trees.

The pedestrian—who will find his reward in longer excursions over the wild country of Exmoor—may be advised of the following walk, which is recommended in Mrs. Chatter's charming little volume '*Ferny Combes*' (1856). To *Simonsbath*, and thence down the Barle to Landacre Bridge and *Withypool* (*Inn*: Royal Oak); and further down the stream about 5 m.), between hills wild and bare on the one side, beautifully wooded on the other, to *Torr Steps*, an ancient British bridge formed of huge blocks of stone, fixed as piers and pathway, where the view up the stream is very beautiful. Then across the hill to *Winsford* (a very good *Inn*); and by a lane, just wide enough for a carriage, to *Exford*, where there is a small *Inn* much frequented by fly-fishers: whence there is a road over *Lucott Hill* to the top of Porlock Hill.

23 m. *Dunster*.

24 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Minehead*.

ROUTE 32.

BRIDGWATER TO WILLITON, BY CANNINGTON, NETHER STOWEY, [THE QUANTOCKS,] STOKECOURCY, ST. AUDRIES, CROWCOMBE.

(Road. 2 Rtes.)

Bridgwater (Rte. 21). On this route there are 2 roads as far as Williton: one, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., passing the Quantocks by the sea; the other, 20 m., crossing these hills near their southern termination, and skirting their western slopes to Williton. They are both beautiful roads, but perhaps the latter is the more picturesque of the two. First for the former, the direct road by Nether Stowey.

4 m. *Cannington*. Beyond this village, on the rt., are *Brymore House* (Hon. P. Pleydell Bouverie), the ancient seat of the Pym family, from whom was descended John Pym, the famous member of the Long Parliament: and *Cannington Park*, now occupied as a grazing-farm, where there is a remarkable outcrop of carboniferous limestone. At *Cannington* a priory of Benedictine nuns was founded, adjacent to the present ch., in 1138, by Robert de Courcy, sewer or chief butler to the Empress Maud. The tradition that "Fair Rosamund" was born in this parish and educated at the nunnery, may be safely rejected. The manor and lands were granted by the crown in 1672 to Thos. Lord Clifford, and still belong to the Clifford family. In 1807 a sisterhood of French Benedictines was established in the *Court House* adjacent to the ch., but have since been removed to Rugeley in Staffordshire. It is now occupied by a Roman Catholic industrial school, and orphanage. It has a long low front, with square-headed stone mullioned windows, and a modern

Corinthian chapel. The low buttressed wall of the conventual enclosure remains picturesquely draped with ivy. The *Ch.* is a Perp. building, very short and lofty, with a single roof embracing nave, aisles, and chancel. It should be seen from the E., when the effect of height is very striking. The same characteristic may be observed in the tall square tower, which strikingly shows the value of a blank story. Within, the lofty well-proportioned arcades cannot fail to command admiration. There are some sepulchral memorials to the Cliffords, and very rich parclose at the ends of the aisles. There is neither clerestory nor chancel arch. On the outside, beneath the very fine lofty 5-lt. E. window are some fine consecration crosses. There is an ancient *Manor-house* known as *Street Farm*, belonging to Lord Cavan, in which there is a very small domestic chapel, with just room for the priest and acolyte, preserving its piscina, aumbry, and remains of its altar, commanded from the living-rooms by three squints. The steps of the winding staircase are fashioned of single trunks of oak.

On the l., $\frac{1}{4}$ m., *Blackmoor Farm*, an interesting specimen of a small mediæval manor-house, in good preservation. The hall, now divided into two stories, occupies the centre, with a projecting porch. The chapel is in the N. wing, having the usual two-storied arrangement at the W. end. Within there are two stone staircases, one in front leading to 3 arched doorways, communicating, respectively, with the gallery, the solar, and the chapel, and a newel staircase in the rear. The S. wing has been destroyed.

The views of the Channel and the Welsh Coast, under a green arch of larch boughs, stretching horizontally over the road, are very beautiful as you approach.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Nether Stowey*, the birth-place of Parsons the Jesuit, 1546,

and for some time the residence of *Samuel Taylor Coleridge*, his cottage is the last house on the left-hand side as you go towards the Bristol Channel, now turned into a village inn.

"And now, beloved Stowey, I behold
Thy church tower, and methinks the four
 huge elms
Clustering, which mark the mansion of my
friend;
And close beside them, hidden from my view,
Is my own lonely cottage, where my babe,
And my babe's mother dwell in peace."

Among the woods of the neighbouring hills are the valleys of the *Seven Wells*, and *Hunter's Combe*, beautiful scenes, rendered classic ground by the genius of this chance visitor, and that of his companion *Wordsworth*, who in 1797 occupied a house at *Alfoxden* (we preserve Wordsworth's spelling: the name is really *Alfox-ton*). Many of Wordsworth's 'Lyrical Ballads,' and most of Coleridge's poems, were written at Alfoxden and Stowey: among these were 'Peter Bell' and the 'Ancient Mariner,' the latter of which was composed during a walking tour of Coleridge and Wordsworth along the Quantocks by Watchet to Minehead, Porlock, and Lynton in Nov. 1797.

"Upon smooth Quantocks' airy ridge we roved,
Unchecked we loitered mid her sylvan courts,
Thou in bewitching words, with happy heart,
Didst chaunt the vision of that Ancient Man,
The bright-eyed Mariner, and rueful woes
Didst utter of the Lady Christabel."

WORDSWORTH, *Prelude*.

Coleridge took up his residence at Nether Stowey in 1796 ("sanctum et venerabile nomen," rich by so many associations and recollections), "in order to enjoy the society of his dear and honoured friend T. Poole, and to have leisure for the study of ethics and psychology, and the foundations of religion and morals." He was in the habit of preaching for Dr. Toulmin at the Unitarian Chapel at Taunton. He provided for his scanty maintenance by writing verses

for a London morning paper. This was the period of the true manhood of his poetical life, during which he wrote his 'Remorse.' In June, 1797, Wordsworth and his sister removed to Alfoxden, and here, in conjunction with Coleridge, he produced the 'Lyrical Ballads.' Among the pieces written here were, 'We are Seven,' 'The Idiot Boy,' 'Goody Blake,' &c. He speaks of it as "a very pleasant and productive time of his life." "Wherever we turn," writes Miss Wordsworth, "we have woods, smooth downs, and valleys with small brooks running down them through green meadows hardly ever intersected with hedge-rows, but scattered over with trees. The hills that cradle these valleys are either covered with fern or bilberries, or oak woods—walks extend for miles over the hill-tops, the great beauty of which is their wild simplicity." Alfoxden was the scene of the famous picnic party of the 2 Wordsworths, Coleridge, and Cottle, when their provisions consisting of bread, cheese, brandy, and lettuces, the cheese was stolen by a beggar, the brandy bottle was broken by Coleridge's awkwardness, and they were reduced to the lettuces and bread without salt. They had to leave Alfoxden from suspicion of being hatchers of sedition. A government spy with a long nose who was sent down to watch them, thought they were talking of him as "Spinoza." "C. was believed to have little harm in him, for he was a crackbrained, talking fellow; but that Wordsworth, they said, is either a smuggler or a traitor, and means mischief. He never speaks to any one, haunts lonely places, walks by moonlight, and is always *booming* about by himself." The agent refused to give them a lease of the Alfoxden house and they started for Germany, Sept. 1798. Above Nether Stowey are some remarkable entrenchments of the *Castle*, now entirely destroyed.

In the *Ch.* of *Spaxton*, 3 m. S.E., is an altar-tomb of the De la Hulle, and some very good bench-ends; one is known as "the fuller's panel," representing a fuller engaged in his work. The alms chest is very curious. Near the village is *Holwell Cavern*, 127 ft. in length, partly excavated in the grauwacke slate, and encrusted with crystals of white aragonite, here and there tinged with a delicate hue of purple. A *copper-mine* was formerly worked at *Doddington*. At *Over Stowey* is *Quantock Lodge*, the seat of the late Lord Taunton, commanding a fine view of the Channel, which contains, among other curiosities, a fine collection of miscellaneous china.

Over Stowey is the best headquarters for exploring the Quantock range, to which 2 or 3 days may be very agreeably devoted. The high ground is a heathy moorland, the flanks seamed with romantic woody combs.

2 m. rt. $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Bridgwater is *Stokecourcy* (locally known as *Stogursey*), named from its former lords, the De Courcys, the remains of whose moated castle may still be seen. Fulk de Breauté, the 2nd husband of Alice de Redvers, daughter of Wm. de Courcy, fortified and garrisoned the manor-house, and made it a stronghold of robbers. It was dismantled by the express order of the Justiciar, Hubert of Burgh.. It was taken and burnt by William, Lord Bonville, brother-in-law of the Earl of Warwick, soon after the first battle of St. Albans, and has ever since lain in ruins. The remains of the castle are very small; only traces of the bridge, the stumps of the two towers commanding the entrance, the site of the round keep tower and the sally-port remain. The castle mill is still in use. The stream that worked it served the moat. A member of this family, John de Courcy, was the first to subdue the province of

Ulster, of which he was created Earl. In this neighbourhood a sanguinary conflict occurred in 845 between the Danes and Saxons, when the latter, led by the bishop of Sherborne, succeeded in driving the pirates to their ships. *Stokecourcy Ch.* is a large and interesting building, containing Norm. and Transition work, which has been well restored by Mr. Norton. The body was rebuilt temp. Henry VII. The S. aisle is the burial-place of the Verneys of Fairfield, and contains two recumbent effigies, one of John Verney, the last but one male representative of the family, clad in complete armour, temp. Henry VI., on a very rich altar-tomb with figures in niches. The tower is central and oblong in plan. *Stokecourcy* was an alien priory, a cell to the Abbey of L'Onley in Normandy, to which it was given temp. Hen. II. The early Norman tub-font has been recovered and replaced. The cross in the churchyard is an ancient example re-modelled.

About 1 m. W. is *Fairfield*, Sir A. Acland Hood, Bart., a mansion of the 16th centy., commenced by Sir Thomas Palmer, d. 1583, and finished by his grandson of the same name, surrounded by an extensive park and grounds.

10 m. *Dodington Court* is a fine example of an Elizabethan manor-house, with a long gabled façade and projecting porch. The hall has a fine roof of dark oak, and preserves its screen and minstrel gallery, and the date 1581, on the Renaissance chimney-piece, which is not in its original place. The withdrawing room has a curious arabesque plaster cornice; adjoining it is the oriel or ladies' room.

2 m. l., on a hill-top, 1022 ft. above the sea, the British camp of *Danesborough* (called Dowsebury), where, it is said, the Belgæ were defeated by the Romans. It is of a circular form, with double ramparts.

12 m. rt. *Stringston Ch.* has a tall,

red-tiled broach spire, and walls covered with plaster. On the S. side is a very beautiful 14th-cent. canopied cross, about 15 ft. high. On the E. face is the Crucifixion, on the W. our Lady and Child, on the S. an armed knight, on the N. a bishop in act of benediction.

11 m. *Holford*. On the N. side of the Ch. stands a late 13th-centy. cross, on the shaft of which a male figure is carved. In a commanding and most beautiful position, *Alfoxton House*, seat of L. St. Albyn, Esq.

2½ m. rt., on the sea-shore, is the little village of *Kilve*—Southey's "Kilve by the green sea"—Wordsworth's "Kilve's delightful shore."—*Kilve Ch.* is a small plain aisleless building, with a rude tower, grouping well with the walls and gables of a demolished house adjoining.

1 m. W. is *East Quantoxhead*, where is one of the most interesting *Manor-houses* in the county. Its present owner, Mr. G. F. Luttrell, is the lineal descendant of Ralph Paganel, who held it in the time of William the Conqueror. It contains some plaster mantlepieces in alto-relief, the earliest dated 1614.

12½ m. *Putsham*. Beyond this village the road ascends the slope of the Quantock Hills, when the traveller, by a backward glance, may behold, spread over a vast distance, the hazy levels of Bridgwater, the range of the Mendips, the truncated cone of Brent Knoll, the glistening sea with its rocky islets of the Holmes, and the magnificent coast of Wales.

14 m. Here, on a spur of the hills, is *St. Audries*, an ancient property of the Mallets (Sir Alexander Acland Hood, Bart.). On right is the home-park sloping to the shore, and the house, which, seated on the eastern point of Minehead Bay, commands the mountainous distance of Exmoor in connection with the sea, a view most charming. l. is the deer-park, with its ferny brakes and wooded heights. In the grounds

stands the beautiful *ch.* of *West Quantoxhead*, erected by Sir Alexander A. Hood, to the S. of which are the steps, socket, and part of the shaft of a cross. The road now descends the western side of the Quantocks, unfolding the landscape in the direction of Exmoor.

17½ m. *Williton* (Rte. 31).

The longer road from Bridgwater to Williton runs for above 5 m. through an undulating country, passing on the l.

3½ m. *Halswell House*, seat of Col. Tynte, and rt.

5 m. *Enmore Castle* (p. 383), formerly the property of the Earls of Egmont, and now of T. P. Broadmead, Esq., when it ascends the Quantock Hills, rising to a view of the greater part of eastern Somersetshire. Having gained the summit, about 1000 ft. above the sea, it proceeds for 1½ m. on a level, running amid wild plantations of fir which sweep to the valley, and passing, on the l., *Broomfield House* (J. Hamilton, Esq.), a place of interest in scientific history as the scene of the supposed creation of the "*Acarus Crossii*" by "Philosopher Crosse," who resided here. *Broomfield Ch.* is Perp., with some fine carved oak benches. In the churchyard S. is the socket and mutilated shaft of a cross of the 13th cent. It then begins a very beautiful descent on the western side, where the traveller is deeply embowered in a tall beech wood, through which he sees by glimpses a dark romantic dell, and the Grecian mansion of *Cothelstone Park*, built 1818 (Charles Esdaile, Esq.).

10 m. At the foot of the hill the road passes under an ivied archway, which was formerly the entrance of the manor-house of *Cothelstone*, now a farmhouse, rt. *Cothelstone House* was the residence of Sir John Stawell, the daring Royalist leader. It was destroyed by Blake on his march

from Taunton to Dunster. Tradition says that the arms of the forces of Sir J. Stawell were kept in the tower of Bishop Lydeard church, and his levies made in a field which still bears the name of "Standards." Two gentlemen, who were concerned in the Monmouth rebellion, were by the order of Judge Jeffreys hung on the arch before old Cothelstone House. Passing through an embattled gatehouse, we have before us a gabled building, thickly mantled with ivy, and of a singular style of architecture, the large oblong windows being formed by a series of pillars, which also on a larger scale decorate the front and entrance. Over the doorway appear the arms of Stawell. At the rear of the garden is the little parish *Church*, in which lie the remains and monuments of the former lords of Cothelstone. The visitor will notice the fine elm by the churchyard, and the walnut-tree in the adjoining field. Further to the rt. is *Bagborough House*, a seat of the Pophams (now M. F. Bisset, Esq. M.P.).

13½ m. The road crosses a small stream which descends from *Will's Neck*, the summit of the Quantock Hills, 1270 ft. above the level of the sea. The scenery on either side is delightful, particularly on the l., where there are fir-woods, and *Willet Tower* rising beyond them.

15 m. *Crowcombe* (*Inn*: Carew Arms), a romantic little village under the escarpment of the Quantocks, commanding the hilly country to the W., and in the distance *Willet Tower*, and a straight avenue-drive to it through a wood. The place owes its neat appearance in great measure to the Carews, whose mansion of *Crowcombe Court* (Mrs. Carew), and its hanging groves, appear on the rt. At the entrance from Williton the pretty creeper-clad cottages of the village are seen in combination with the dark height of Will's Neck.

The objects of interest here are a

sculptured cross in the churchyard, another by the roadside, and the pictures and curiosities in the seat of the Carews.

Crowcombe Manor had been given to the see of Winchester by Gytha, wife of Earl Godwin, but was alienated by William the Conqueror to the Earl of Mortaign. One of his descendants, Roger, one of the Barons of Runnymede, gave it to the priory of Studeley, Oxfordshire, towards the clothing of the nuns. In the churchyard is a very beautiful 14th-cent. cross, sculptured with the figures of St. John the Baptist, a bishop, and a female in a monastic habit. The *Village Cross* of the 14th cent., has a slender shaft of very graceful proportions, 13 ft. high. The *Ch.* (restored 1870) is Perp., and contains good oak seats, bearing the date 1534, and in a chapel to the N. monuments to the Carews. The pulpit, screen, and bench-ends have good carving, the octagonal font exhibits crowned and mitred figures in prayer. The spire was destroyed by lightning 1735.

Crowcombe Court (Mrs. Carew) is of red brick, with portico and wings, built in a semicircular form. Among the pictures and other works of art are:—In the *Front Hall*: Mr. Palmer, by *Corn.-Jansen*; full-lengths of Charles I. and his Queen, *Vandyck*; Sir George Carew, *Zucchero*.—The *Staircase*: the family of Erasmus, *Holbein*. The carved balustrade and the Carew arms on the ceiling will be noticed.—The *Library*: Charles II. as a child; the Duke of Richmond, *Vandyck*.—*Drawing-room*: Vesuvius, *G. Poussin*; Offering of the Wise Men, *Rubens*; Falls of Tivoli, *Rosa di Tivoli*; Narcissus, N. and *G. Poussin*; Rachel at the Well, *Carlo Maratti*; St. Agnes, *Carlo Dolce*; the Circumcision, *Leonardo da Vinci*.—*Dining-room*: a Polish general, *Rembrandt*; Sir Francis Drake, *C. Jansen*; Rembrandt, by himself; Duke of Norfolk, Nelson, author of the 'Fasts and Festivals,'

Sir Godfrey Kneller; General Monk, *Vandyck*; Rembrandt's mother, and Miss Carew, who founded the charity for the Crowcombe boys.—*School-room*: Sir T. Carew, who built Crowcombe; his 2 wives; Sir John and Lady Wyndham, and other family portraits.—The *Oak Passage*, fitted as a museum, with stuffed birds, &c.; family portraits; cabinets and doors of carved black oak.—The *Oak Room*, entirely of carved black oak, excepting the floor and ceiling. It contains a miscellaneous collection of curiosities, and some pictures; among them 3 of Charles II.'s beauties; a Miss Carew; and Bampfylde Carew, called the King of the Gipsies. 2 pieces of tapestry. Old chairs, one decorated with the head of Henry II.

The park is very varied and beautiful. A network of walks and drives penetrates the woods, and leads to the ferny heights of the hill by a ravine or glen, darkly shadowed by oak and beech, and by silver firs 12 ft. in circumference. Beneath their spreading branches enormous laurels extend their arms in every direction. Altogether there is something very mountain-like and wild in this great wood. In its deepest recesses leaps a cascade, among ruins of an arch and convent, artificial, but happily placed.

A road runs directly across the Quantocks from Crowcombe to Bridgwater, meeting the high road at Nether Stowey. The distance is about 12 m. You should ascend this road a little way for the sake of a superb prospect over the entire hill country on the border of Exmoor. The 2 towered hills seen rt. and l., are Dunster and Willet. The road is steep and romantic.

Will's Neck, about 2 m. S.E., is the highest summit on these hills, being 1270 ft. above the sea. Its ascent is a favourite excursion with the inhabitants of Bridgwater and Taunton.

Proceeding on our route—

16 m. *Lower Halsway*. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the rt. is a curious *manor-house*, traditionally stated to have been a hunting-lodge of Cardinal Beaufort. The long low front has a pinnacled entrance tower at each end, and one of greater elevation in the middle, flanking a lofty double bay-window. There are some remains of good ceilings within. Some of the gurgoyles are very quaint. *Hurley Beacon* here raises its dark head; the slopes are finely wooded with beech and fir.

The *Ch.*, of very pleasing outline, has a low sq. tower with staircase turret. The eastern gable, with its Perp. window, is rather elaborate. The richly-carved bench-ends deserve notice. There is a fine yew in the churchyard, near which is a cross, late in the 14th cent.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bicknoller*, between 2 gullies in the Quantock Hills. The *Ch.*, of very pleasing outline, has a low square tower. The E. gable and window, Perp., are rather elaborate. The carved bench-ends deserve notice. In the ch.-yd. is a fine yew, and a late 14th.-cent. cross. If on foot, climb aloft here for a view; there is a small encampment on the slope, but go, if possible, to the barrow on the summit, *Thorncombe Barrow*, from which you may see on the one side the Bay of Bridgwater, on the other that of Minehead, the Welsh coast, the entire scarp of Exmoor, and the moor itself, the whole range of the Blackdowns with the Welling-ton Monument, and far into Devonshire. Opposite are the woods of Nettlecombe, and S. of them Willet Tower.

1 m. rt. at the foot of the hills, *Weacombe House*, l. the village of *Sampford Brett*; and, away in the distance, the ranges beyond Dunster, and the huge Dunkery Beacon.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Williton* (Rte. 31).

ROUTE 33.

TAUNTON TO DULVERTON AND
BARNSTAPLE, BY MILVERTON, AND
WIVELISCOMBE,

(*Great Western Rly.*)

Taunton (Rte. 21). This line passes through a superb country between Milverton and the border of Devonshire, and again between Bampton and Dulverton.

2 m. Norton Fitzwarren (Rte. 21, p. 391).

$6\frac{1}{4}$ m. MILVERTON (*Inn*: White Hart; Pop. 2018), a small but ancient market town in a deep combe or dell; the *Ch.* stands on an eminence overlooking it. W. are high and steep hills, mostly cultivated to their summits. Milverton is a place of little note now, except for beauty of position, but it had once a considerable business in the woollen trade. It was the birthplace of *John of Milverton*, a vehement opponent of the doctrines of Wickliff, died 1480, and of *Dr. Thomas Young*, born 1773, who first established the undulatory theory of light, and penetrated the obscurity of the Egyptian Hieroglyphics.

Milverton *Ch.* is a very fine building and was well restored 1850. It is Perp., of less ornate character than is usual in the large churches of Somersetshire. On the W. face of the tower, as at Glastonbury Tor, is a mutilated bas-relief of S. Michael (to whom it is dedicated) and Satan weighing souls; on the E. face a woman milking a cow. The interior has a character of severe grandeur. The nave is very wide, and without clere-story; the arcades have large pointed arches upon octagonal pillars. The greater part of the original carved bench-ends remain, the work being of remarkable excellence, but others

appear to be of cinque-cento work. On one of the benches are carved the arms of Henry VIII., and amongst other rude devices is an "aspergillum" for sprinkling holy water, commonly taken for a pestle and mortar. The chancel is stalled, the sacarium laid with encaustic tiles, and many of the windows filled with modern coloured glass. The font is Norm. The porch is unusually placed at the W. end of the S. aisle.

The *Churchyard* is a fine point of view, commanding the Quantock Hills and the outliers of Exmoor. In it may be seen the rudely-sculptured base of a cross.

The archidiaconal residence near the church, now the vicarage, was built in the reign of Henry VIII. It has a door-case of solid oak worth notice. There is a beautiful arch in one of the rooms and a portion of an original oak ceiling.

2 m. rt. *Castle Hill* is the site of a camp, now planted with trees, in which Roman coins have been found in large numbers.

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. WIVELISCOMBE Stat., commonly pronounced Wilscombe (*Inns*: Lion; Bell; Pop. 1264). This is a market town of some size embosomed among swelling hills, on the side of one of which it hangs, with its feet in a valley. The manor afterwards became a royal domain, and was granted by Edward the Confessor to the cathedral of Wells, whose bishops had a palace here. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1829, still gives name to a prebend of Wells. There are remains of an ancient *cross* in the churchyard, with the figure of an ecclesiastic on the W. side of the shaft, perhaps John Drokensford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, who built a palace here at the early part of the 14th cent. *Abbotsfield* is a very conspicuous house on the side of the hill, built from the designs of Owen Jones, by C. L. Collard, Esq.

There are extensive slate quarries in the neighbourhood. Mr. Hancock's brewery is one of the largest in the W. of England. W. of the town rise the lofty heights of *Main Down* and *Heydon Down*, links in a chain of hills prolonged eastward from the great mass of Exmoor called *Molland Down*. To penetrate these hills and the deep valleys which intersect them, or to angle in their trout streams, are the attractions held out by Wiveliscombe. A view of the place may be obtained from the road to Bampton, and every visitor should see the first valley on that road, 3 m. distant.

The town stands on the junction line of the new red sandstone and Devonian, or old red, rocks, the latter comprising the district of Exmoor.

[The highroad to Bampton is a very pleasant one commanding beautiful views.

At the outset we climb a hill $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, and look down upon Wiveliscombe and the surrounding country, which may be seen to yet greater perfection from the summit to the rt., together with the Quantock and Blackdown ranges, Willet Tower on its distant mount, the vales and hills beyond Taunton, and directly to the N. the huge side of Main Down clothed with sombre fir woods.

From this height a long descent leads to the hamlet of

$3\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Waterwood*, situated deep in a combe by the rocky bed of the *Tone*, here closely shut in by soaring hills prettily broken by wooded rifts and hollows. An old bridge spanning the stream, a cottage full of timbers and angles, and a scarred slate rock on the hill-side, form a scene for a painter. Firs and other trees are thickly grouped over the dell, and adjacent is a valley down which the river flows from its source on Brendon.

On the left, in the parish of *Bathelton* (3 m. S.E. of Wiveliscombe

station; the *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1854), is a well-defined British camp, called the "Castles," in which Roman coins have been found. A few years since the foss was unploughed and full of furze or trees, but now improved agricultural skill is destroying this interesting feature. From the camp are beautiful and extensive views, stretching from the Quantocks on the N. to the hills near Honiton to S., Hamdon Hill near Yeovil, as well as Mendip to the E., and over the vale of Taunton, &c. *Bathealton Court* is the seat of H. G. Moysey, Esq.

$4\frac{1}{4}$ m. The traveller here reaches the border of the county on a watershed, from which he gains a view forward of the hills about Bampton, rt. and l. are narrow lanes; the one leading to *Chipstable* in Somerset, the other to *Clayhanger* in Devon. His onward course is somewhat lonely, by an open valley with pleasant heights to the rt. to

$8\frac{1}{4}$ m. *Shillingford*, and a bridge over the *Batherm*. Rt. is a distant view of *Lower Timewell House* (Rev. R. Bere). From this bridge by a kind of defile we enter *Bampton*.]

Returning to the rly. we reach 14 m. *Venn Cross*, on a projecting horn of Devonshire, through which county the rly. runs for six miles to

$17\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Morebath*, the stat. for

BAMPTON, in Devonshire (see *Hdbk. for Devon*) (*Inn*: White Horse. Pop. 1858), another hill-embedded town, pleasant quarters for the angler or artist. Here we come at one of the headwaters of the Exe, the *Batherm* or *Batham*. The battle of Bampton between the Britons and West Saxons, A.D. 614, sometimes erroneously placed here, was really fought at Bampton, in Oxfordshire, and the town has few memories connected with it, save those of its 4 great fairs, which have

been held in it annually from a distant time. These are for the sale of sheep and cattle, and Exmoor ponies; and take place in March, June, October, and November; that of October, the last Thursday of the month, being the largest.

Bampton had at one time a *castle*, the chief residence of the Norman Walter de Douai, from whom Bridgewater derives a part of its name. It stood on the fir-crowned knoll called the Mount, on the Wiveliscombe road, at the E. end of Castle Street.

The *Church* is a Dec. and Perp. building with carved roof and screen, and fragments of stained glass.

The things to be seen here are the views from the churchyard and quarries, the latter S. of the town, and the first mile of the Wiveliscombe road.

At a little distance are the most beautiful scenes—*Pixton Park*, *Dulverton*, the *ravines* of *Exmoor*, and *Haddon Down*, 1140 ft. high, often visited in the summer time by picnic parties.

The sportsman may have trout-fishing on the Exe and Barle, and stag and fox hunting on Exmoor, the hounds being kept either at Dulverton, or Lynton.

21 m. *Dulverton* Stat. (*Inn*: Carnarvon Arms, good) 2 m. S. of the town of

DULVERTON (*Inns*: Red Lion; Lamb; Pop. 1373).

The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1855, with the exception of the tower, and is a fine structure adorned with much stained glass.

The town is seated in an amphitheatre of hills, wooded with large coverts for the red deer. An impetuous torrent, the Barle, dashes past it under a bridge of 5 arches, and springing over rocky ledges is lost to view among the trees. To the N. stretches the lonely district of Exmoor, closing the approaches very completely on that side, and

limiting the little trade and traffic of the place. To an artist or sportsman, Dulverton has many attractions. The scenery is beautiful; the trout fishing free to the public as far as the border of the forest; the stag and fox-hunting on Exmoor of a very exciting description. The deer are hunted every season (the hounds being kept either at Exford or E. Anstey); but they are hardly so numerous as they were some years ago. Their antlers and skins will be observed in the inn.

At Dulverton you should notice the views from the churchyard and bridge. You should walk down the path below the bridge, and explore the upward course of the river; and, above all, you should ascend to an open spot, called *Mount Sydenham*, in the wood above the ch. The prospect it commands is truly magnificent. Towards the N. you will look up the valley of the Barle, a wild and solitary valley, where no road has yet penetrated beyond a certain point. Its sides are the wooded coverts of the red deer; the heights above them naked heaths. You will command the windings of the river in long perspective for many miles. A short but delightful excursion is to *Higher Combe*, a hunting-box of Sir Thomas Acland's, and return by the Barle. This will give you some idea of the indescribable beauty of the moorland glens. You will gain views over the greater part of Devon and of Somerset, and descry the mountainous mass of Dartmoor on the distant horizon.

[*Exbridge*, 2 m. S. (*Inn*: Blue Anchor), is a hamlet in a broad vale or basin near the station, at the junction of the Exe and Barle, which flow united under the bridge in a turbulent stream, 40 ft. or 50 ft. broad. It is much frequented by anglers, the Exe and the Barle being notable trout streams. You should bestow a glance upon the view from the bridge.

The valley of the Barle is one mass of foliage, through which run the highroad and river in company, the glittering surface of the water being seen between the trunks of the trees. Rt. are the lovely woods of *Pixton Park*, the seat of the Earl of Carnarvon, by whom it has recently been much improved. The walk from the station to Dulverton through the park is full of picturesque beauty. On the opposite hill is a heronry.]

Those who are bound to Lynton may post to it from Dulverton over the forest, but they will find the road hilly. For a pedestrian or equestrian it is an interesting route; for a carriage the preferable one would be by the Dunster road, as far as *Timberscombe*, a drive of great beauty, passing the site of *Barlynch Abbey*, now an entire ruin, and then winding along upward through the wooded valley of the Exe. 6 m. on the rt. is the white tower of *Exton Ch.*, visible from the valley; and 1 m. on l. is Winsford, a pretty and secluded village, where there is an excellent inn, much patronized by anglers. Before reaching *Cutcombe*, the road ascends the ridge of hills, of which Dunkery is the highest point. At Cutcombe is a small public-house called "Rest and be Thankful." From this spot Dunkery can be reached with ease. From Timberscombe a cross road leads to Porlock. The distance by the forest from Dulverton to Lynton is 23 m. (charged 26 post), an easy walk in a summer's day. The *Red Deer* is the halfway-house, and a good road runs from Red Deer to *Simonsbath* (see *ante*) and Lynton.

From the centre of Dulverton the huge fir-clad hill on the W. is a prominent object, rising high above the roofs. It is called *Part of Dobbs's*, in accordance with a whimsical nomenclature common in the town. Thus one house is called *Part of Kennaway's*, another the *Huntsman's House*.

Near Dulverton are *Pixton House* (Lord Carnarvon), *Combe*, an old mansion 1 m. S., T. M. Dodington, Esq., and *Hollam House*, A. St. John Mildmay, Esq. *Northmoor House*, J. A. Locke, Esq., just above the town. Dulverton is 17 m. from Dunster, a beautiful drive: 15 m. from S. Molton, post; and rather more by an ancient trackway, which passes, 5 m. N.W., *Torr Steps*, a very wild but most charming spot, where a series of rude stones cross the *Barle*. There are iron-mines on Exmoor, and lead-mines near *Mol-land*, in the adjoining county.

The town, says Fuller, was the

birthplace of *Humphrey Sidenham* —“Silver-tongued Sidenham”—an eloquent preacher, who died 1650.

At Dulverton station is the junction of the new N. Devon and Exeter line which will shortly be opened.

The rly. again enters Devonshire and proceeds to

24 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *East Anstey*.

29 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Bishops Nympton*.

34 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. *South Molton*.

37 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Filleigh*.

40 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Swimbridge*.

44 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Barnstaple*.

(See *Handbook to Devon*.)

INDEX.

[N.B. The places printed in *italics* are railway stations.]

ABBEYS.

A.

Abbeys, Priories, etc.
 Abbotsbury, 215.
 Amesbury, 114, 115.
 Barlynch, 474.
 Bindon, 201.
 Bradenstoke or Clack Hill,
 7.
 Buckland, 439.
 Cerne Abbas, 240.
 Cleeve, 449.
 East Holme, 197.
 Edington, 61.
 Glastonbury, 275.
 Hinton Charterhouse, 59.
 Ivy Church, 132.
 Kington, St. Michael, 20.
 Lacock, 19, 47.
 Milton Abbas, 220.
 Monkton Farleigh, 56.
 Montacute, 413.
 Muchelney, 442.
 Portbury, 367.
 Shaftesbury, 166.
 Stanley, 17.
 Stavordale, 272.
 Taunton, 387.
 Wareham, 195.
 Woodspring, 375.
 Abbotsbury, Abbey, ch.,
 215; Chapel of S. Catherine,
 216; Decoy and Swannery, *ib.*;
 Castle, *ib.*; Intermittent Spring,
 ib.; Camp, *ib.*
 Abbots Hill, 429.
 — Road, 306.
 Abona, Roman station of,
 363.
 Abury, 41. *See* Avebury.
 Ackling Dyke, 217.
 Addison, birthplace of, 69.
 Affpuddle ch., 261; Heath,
 202, 261.
 Agapemone, the, 384
 Agglestone, the, 246.
 Ailesbury Column, 44.
 Alarum tree, 217.
 Aldbourn, Battle, 64; Chase,
 ib.; ch. 65.
 Alderbury Junction, ch.,
 House, 86.

ASHLEY.

Aldhelm, St., of Malmesbury,
 8, 174; his death, 417.
 —'s Head, St., Chapel,
 247; well, 417.
 Alford, ch, Well, Cross, 408.
 Alfoxton, or Alfoxden House
 467.
 Alfred, King, at Athelney,
 his jewel, 440.
 —'s Tower, 172, 407.
 All Cannings, ch., Manor-
 house, 70.
 Allein, the nonconformist,
 birthplace, 74; death, 389.
 Allen, Ralph, 323.
 Aller House (near Watchet),
 451.
 —, ch., moor, battle, 441.
 Allington, ch, 80.
 Almer, ch., 259.
 Alphege, St., birthplace, and
 spring, 324.
 Alton Barnes, ch., 69.
 — Priors, 69.
 Alvedeston, ch., 141.
 Amesbury ch., 115; history,
 114; House, 115; Mon-
 astery, Nunnery, 114;
 Last Abbess, 115; Sarsen
 stones, 116; Vespasian's
 Camp, 115.
 Ammerdown, 404; Park,
 column, 424.
 "Ancren Rewle," 219.
 Anning, Miss Mary, 234.
 Ann's Hill, St., 66; Camp,
 67.
 Aquæ Solis, ancient, 309.
 Arish Mell Gap, 250.
 Arne Chapel, 194.
 — Hill, earthworks, 150.
 Arnold, Dr., at Warminster
 Free School, 150.
 Arthur, King, palace of, well,
 409.
 Arundell, Lady Blanche,
 gallant defence by, 160.
 Ashcombe, 142.
 Ashcott, 305.
 Ashgrove, 165.
 Ashill, ch., 432.
 Ashlands Hill, 429.
 Ashley, Earl Shaftesbury,
 139.

BADGEWORTHY.

Ashley Combe, 462.
 Ashton Court, 364, 368.
 —, Long, ch., 368.
 — Rood, ch., 53.
 —, Steeple, ch., 53.
 Assheton Smith at Tidworth,
 79.
 Asylum, Wilts county, 75.
 Athelhampton, Hall, 203,
 222, 261.
 Athelney Stat., I. of, 439,
 440.
 Athelstan's Day, King, 9.
 Aubrey, John, the antiquary,
 xxii., 20, at Blandford, 264.
 Audries, St., 468.
 Augustine, St., at Banner-
 down, 26.
 Avalon, the ancient island of,
 275.
 Avebury, earthworks and
 stone circles, 36-40.
 —, ch., House, 40.
 Avill, river, valley, 451.
 Avon, river, xx., 334; valley,
 46, 54, 56, 76, 359; gorge,
 359.
 — — (Southern) xxii.,
 68, 86, 114, 135.
 — Mouth, 363.
 Axbridge, ch., 396; St.
 Michael's House, 397.
 Axe Knoll, 226.
 — river (Somerset), 376,
 396; source of, 304.
 — — (Dorset), sources
 of, 430.
 Axium, ancient, 375.
 Axminster, 435.
 Ayscough, Bishop, murder
 of, 61.

B.

Babington House, 404; ch.,
 house, 424.
 Babylon Hill, 412.
 Bacon, Roger, birthplace of,
 428.
 Backwell, ch., 369.
 Badbury Castle, 29.
 — Rings, 188, 263.
 Badgeworthy Water, 463.

EAGBOROUGH.

- Bagborough House, 469.
 Bailey Corner, 258.
Bailey Gate, 262.
 Ballard Head, 193, 244.
 Balmore Pond, 30.
Bampton, castle, ch., fairs, 473.
 Banbury Camp, 268.
 Banks, Lady, defence of Corfe Castle by, 198.
 Bannerdown, 26, 325.
Banwell, bone caves, ch., court, 394.
 Barbury Camp, 30.
 Barford, St. Martin, ch., 155; House, 136.
 Barle river, 464, 474.
 Barley Wood, 393.
 Barlynch Abbey, 474.
 Barn Door, the, 252.
 Barneston, 201.
 Barrington ch., court, 437.
 Barrow Court, 368.
 — Gurney, cross, 368.
 — Hill, 326.
 — North, ch., 408.
 — South, 408.
 Barrows,
 Beacon Hill, 78.
 Bincombe, 209.
 Black Hill, 260.
 Bridehead, 223.
 Chalbury, 213.
 E. Chaldon, 203.
 Cley Hill, 150.
 Cophead, 150.
 Ell Barrow, 84.
 Enford, 68.
 Fontmell Down, 267.
 King Barrow, 149.
 Knighton Long Barrow, 84.
 Lake House, 122.
 Long Barrow, 42, 77.
 Milton Hill, 66, 78.
 Nine Barrow Down, 201.
 Poole, 194.
 Priddy, 399.
 Ridge Way, 69.
 Round Hill, 421.
 Thorncombe Barrow, 471.
 Twin Barrows, 68, 78.
 Walker's Hill, 66.
 White and Silver Barrows, 83.
 Barton Farm, 56.
Bason Bridge, 307.
 Basset Down House, 5.
 Batcombe (near Yeovil), ch., 238.
 — (near Bruton), ch., 407.
Bath — hotels, position, street architecture, 308; legends, history, Roman remains, 309; ancient manufactures,

BIDDESSEN.

- 312; worthies, 315; abbey ch., 316-318; churches, 318; pump room, 319; baths, 319-320; public buildings, 320-322; literary and scientific institutions, 320; old Assembly rooms, 321; Partis College, 321; Gardens, 322; Beckford's Tower, 322; environs, 323-327.
Bathampton, ch., 307; Manor-house, 26, 77, 308.
 Bath-brick Works, 380.
 Bathealton, 472; ch., camp, Court, 473.
 Batheaston, ch., villa, 26, 308, 325.
 Bathford, ch., 26, 307.
 Battleborough, 377.
 Battlesbury Camp, 148.
 Batt's Castle, 456.
 — Corner, 252.
 Baverstock, ch., 155.
 Bay House, 266.
 Bayford Hill, House, Lodge, 272.
 Baynton Chapel, 50.
 Beacon Batch, 395.
 — Hill, 78, 421 (near Shepton Mallet).
 Beaminster, ch., "the Mort House," conflagrations, 226.
 Bearn Back, 373.
 Beckford, William, author of "Vathek," 162; tower and tomb, 322.
 Beckington Castle, ch., 404.
 Bedhampton, 144.
 Bedminster, coalfield, 368.
Bedwyn, Great, Castle Hill, ch., history, 65.
 —, Little, 65.
 Beechen Cliff, 308.
 Beechingstoke, ch., 69.
 Belfield House, 212.
 Belluton, 422.
 Bemerton, churches, 123.
 Bendon, 235.
 Ben Knoll, 305.
 Bentham, Jeremy, at Ford Abbey, 433.
 Bere Regis, history, ch., 201, 260.
 — Wood, 259.
 Bergundy Chapel, 459.
 Berwick, Bassett, ch., 42.
 — St. James, ch., 83.
 — St. John, ch., 141, 165.
 — St. Leonard's, ch., Manor-house, 161.
 Bettiscombe, ch., 228.
 Bickham, 456.
 Bicknoller, 447, 471.
 Biddesden House, 46.

BONE-CAVES.

- Biddeston, ch., 25.
 Bilbury Ring, 143.
 Billy Wilkins, oak, 239.
 Bincombe, ch., barrows, 209.
 Bindon Abbey, 201.
 — Little, Abbey, 251.
 — Hill, 251.
Binegar, ch., 421.
 Bingham, Sir Richard, birthplace, &c., 222.
 Bingham's Melcombe, ch., House, 222.
 Birt Hill, 429.
 Bishop's Cannings, ch., 70.
 — Caundle, ch., 182.
 — Chair, 394.
 — Fonthill, ch., 161.
Bishop's Lydeard, ch., 445.
 Bishopston, ch., 140.
 Biss river, 52.
 Bittern Lake, 163.
 Bitton, ch., 328.
 Blackdown Hills, 391-2.
 — Wood, 448.
 Black Down (Dorset), 209, 214, 223.
 — (Mendips), 395, 397, 399.
 Black Heath, 84.
 — Hill, 260.
 — Pits, 464.
 — Vein, the, 234.
 Blackford, ch., 410.
 Blackmoor Farm, 466.
 —, Vale of, 270.
 Blackmore Museum at Salisbury, 110.
 —, Sir Richard, poet and physician, birthplace, 23.
 Blacksford Chapel, 459.
 Bladud, legend of, 309.
 Bladon, ch., Roman pig of lead, 396.
 Blaise Castle, pictures, Park, hall, 362, 363.
 Blake, Admiral, birthplace of, 380; defence of Taunton, 385.
Blandford, great fire, 263; worthies, 264; ch., pump, public buildings, ancient buildings, Damorey's oak, 264.
 — St. Mary, ch., 263.
Bleadon, ch., Hill, 376.
 Bloxworth, ch., House, 259.
Blue Anchor, 449; submerged forest, 451.
 Blunsdon Castle Hill, 3.
 Bokerley ditch, 67, 217.
 Bone-caves:—
 Banwell, 394.
 Burrington, 395-396.
 Cheddar, 398.
 Hutton, 394.
 Loxton, 26.

BONE-CAVES.

Bone-caves:—
 Sandford, *ib.*
 Uphill, 376.
 Wookey, 304.
 Bonham, Thomas, 142.
 Boreham, 149.
 Bore on the Parrett river, 381.
 Bormewe, Abbess of Amesbury, 115.
 Boroughbridge, 440.
 Boscombe, East, ch., 80.
 Bossington, 462; Beacon, 461; view from, 462.
 Bournes, the, 122.
 Bow and Arrow Castle, 257.
 Bow Brook, 172.
 — Ditch, 424.
 Bowden Park, 47.
 Bower Chalk, ch., 141.
 — Farm, 381.
 — Walls, 360.
 Bowle, the Spanish scholar, grave, 80.
 Bowles, the poet, at Bremhill, 19.
 Bowood, 15; pictures, 16; gardens, mausoleum, 17.
 Box, Village, 26; brook, 21; quarries, 25; tunnel, *ib.*
 Boy Bishop, the, 96.
 Boyle, Rob., the philosopher, at Stalbridge, 269.
 Boyton, ch., Manor, pit, 145.
 Bracton, the lawyer, birthplace, 458.
 Bradenstoke Priory, Hill, ch., 7.
 Bradfield, 13.
 Bradford (near Taunton), ch., 391.
 — Abbas, ch., 182; cross, 183.
 — on-Avon, bridges, 55; churches, *ib.*; history, *ib.*; manufactures, *ib.*
 — Down, by Dorchester, 223.
 — Peverel, ch., 235.
 Bradleigh Hill, 427.
 Bradley, Maiden, ch., knoll, House, Park, 154, 404.
 Braden Forest, pond, 28.
 Brandon Hill, 357.
 Brandy Street, 459.
 Branksea Island. *See* Brownsea.
 Brass, the first made in England, 333.
 Bratton (near Westbury), Castle, ch., 61.
 Bratton (near Wincanton), Tumulus, 273.
 Bratton Court (near Minehead), 458.
 Breakwater, Portland, 256.
 Brean, ch., Down, Fort, 376.

BRITISH.

Breamore, ch., House, 137;
 Down, 134.
 Bredy, Little, 209.
 — river, 225.
 Bremhill, 19.
 Bremhillwick Hill, 13.
 Brendon Hills, 447; iron mines, *ib.*
 Brent, East, 373; Lady Well, *ib.*
 — Knoll, 377.
 —, South, 378.
 Brentsfeld Bridge, 382.
 Brett, Sampford, ch., 447, 471.
 Brickworth House, 85, 136.
 Bride Bottom, 215.
 — river, source of, 223.
 Bridehead, 215, 223.
 Bridgwater, inns, history, 379; storming and burning of, *ib.*; churches, 380; public buildings, *ib.*; Bathbrick Works, *ib.*; bore, 381.
 Bridport, Bp., monument of, 101.
 Bridport, inns, position, rope manufactory, 224; ancient houses, *ib.*; quay, worthies, 225.
 Brimsdon, 154.
 Brislington, ch., tunnel, 328, 422.
 Bristol—Hotels, 328; position, history, Castle, 329; riots, slave-trade, 332; manufactures, 333; streets, 334; cathedral, 335–345; see, 336; ground-plan, 337; chapter-house, 344; College-green, 345; St. Mark's Chapel, 345, 346; St. Mary Redcliffe, 346–351; ground-plan, 347; churches, 351–354; public buildings and institutions, 354–358; Colston Hall, 356; worthies, 358; docks and floating harbour, 359; diamonds, 359.
 Britford, ch., fair, 130.
 British trackway, 69.
 British villages and hut circles—
 Ben Knoll, 305.
 Brean Down, 376.
 Bulford Field, 78.
 Bullbarrow, 222.
 Casterley, 68.
 Comb Hill, 78.
 Croydon Hill, 456.
 Durrington Long Walls, 69.
 Easton, 66, 78.
 Enford, 68.
 Everley, 78.

BURKE.

British villages, &c.—
 Groveley, 142.
 Hackstone Down, 78.
 Heale Hill, 122.
 Hewish Hill, 66.
 Hindon, 161.
 Hod Hill, 266.
 Knock Castle, 148.
 Liddbury, 78.
 Milton Hill, 78.
 Pewsey Heath, 78.
 Priddy, 399.
 Turnworth, 220.
 West Down Hill, 78.
 Withycombe, 451.
 Britton, John, the antiquary, birthplace, 20.
 Brixton Deverel, ch., 154.
 Broad Bench, 249.
 — Chalk, ch., 141.
 — Hinton, 7.
 — Windsor, ch., 227.
 Broadfield Down, 368.
 Broadstone, the, 223.
 Broadway Camp, 69, 84.
 — Church, 428.
 Broadwey, ch., 209.
 Brockley Combe, ch., Court, 369.
 Bromham, ch., House, inn, 17, 50.
 Brook, 60.
 Brooke, Rajah, grave of, 437.
 Broomfield, House, ch., 469.
 Broughton Gifford, ch., 52.
 Brownsea, or Branksea, Island, Castle, 193; pits, 193.
 Brue river, xlv.; sources of, 172, 405.
 Bruton, inns, history, 405; ch., 406; institutions, *ib.*
 — Park, 407.
 Bryanston House and Park, ch., 265.
 Brymore House, 465.
 Brympton d'Evercy, ch., Chantry House, Mansion-house, 412.
 Bubb Down, 239.
 Buckhorn Weston, 172.
 Buckingham, Duke of, execution of, 88.
 Buckland Abbas, ch., 241.
 — Sororum, 439.
 — St. Mary, 438.
 — West, 391.
 Buckshaw House, 182.
 Bulford, ch., 69.
 Bullbarrow, 222.
 Bullstake Hill, 173.
 Burbage, ch., 66.
 Burcombe, ch., 155.
 Burdrop Park, 29; race-course, 30.
 Burke, Edmund, 56.

BURLESTON.

Burleston, ch., 261.
Burnham, inns, lighthouse, springs, ch., altarpiece, 378.
 Burning Cliff, 214.
 Burrington, ch., combe, cavern, 395; Ham, 396.
 Burton Bradstock, ch., cliff, 225.
 — Hill House, 21.
 — House, 443.
 — Long, ch. 242.
 — Steeple, 443.
 Bury Castle, 459.
 — Wood, Camp, 25.
 Bushey Coombe, 283.
 Bussex Rhine, 382.
 Bustard inn, 84.
 Bustard, the great, 84.
 Butleigh, Court, pictures, ch., 283.
 Butler, Bishop, of Bristol, 336; death, 321; grave, 340.
 Butter Rock, 252.
 Buxbury, 157.
 Buzbury, 219.
 Byam, Rev. H., 459.
 Byzant, the, 167.

C.

Cabbage, first grown in England, 139.
 Cadbury Castle (near Sparkford), 409, 271, 273.
 — Camp (near Weston-super-Mare), 373.
 — North, ch., House, 409.
 — South, ch., 409.
 Cadenham, 15.
 Caer Badon, 326.
 Calamine-mines, 396, 398.
 Cale river, 172, 270.
Calne, castle, ch., 18.
 Camel, Queen's, ch., spring, 410.
 — West, ch., 410.
 Camelot, site of, 409.
Camerton, ch., Court, 421.
 Camps. *See* Earthworks.
 Canal, Thames and Severn, 28.
 — North Wilts, 28.
 — Kennet and Avon, 71, 76.
 Canford, Little, 183; Manor, ch., 186.
 Cannings, All, ch., Manor-house, 70.
 Cannings, Bishop's, ch., 70.
 Cannington Park, Court-house, 465; ch., Manor-house, 466.

CHARD.

Canute, death of, at Shaftesbury, 166.
 Canynges, elder and younger, 348; monuments, 351.
 Carboniferous rocks, xi.
 Carhampton, ch., 451.
 Cary, Lytes, 427-428.
 — river, 427; source, 408.
 Cashmore inn, 217.
 Casterley Camp, 68, 84.
 Castles. *See* Earthworks.
 —, the, 472.
 Castle of Comfort inn, 399.
Castle Cary, inns, castle, 407; history, 408; ch., Park, Lodge Hill, *ib.*
 — Combe, ch., House, market cross, village, 21.
 Castle Ditches, 84, 134, 157.
 — Hill, 28, 85, 472.
 — Neroche or Ratch, 438.
 — Orchard, 273.
 — Rings, 160, 165, 220.
 Castleton, 354, 256.
 Catherine, St., ch., grange, 325.
 Catherston, ch., hall, 229.
 Cattistock Castle, ch., 237.
 Cattle Hill, 273.
 Caundle, Bishop's, ch., 182.
 —, Purse, ch., 182.
 Cave Hole, 258.
 Cemeteries, Romano-British, on Isle of Portland, 254; Weymouth, 252.
 Cerne Abbas, Abbey, ruins, ch., Giant's Hill, 240, 208.
 Chains, the, 464.
 Chalbury, ch., 189; Camp, 209, 213.
 Chaldfield, Great, Manor-house, ch., 51.
 —, Little, 51.
 Chaldon, East, ch., earthworks, 203.
 Chalk, Bower or Borough, ch. 141.
 —, Broad, ch., 141.
 — and Greensand, ix.
 —, Vale of, 140.
 Chalmington House, 237.
 Chantmarle, 238.
 Chapel Farm, 324.
 — Hole, 145.
 — Plaster, 26, 327.
 — of St. Catherine, 216.
 — of St. Joseph, 279.
 — of St. Leonard, 58.
 — of St. Michael, 282.
 Chapman Barrows, 463.
 Chapman's Pool, 248.
 Char river, 231.
 Charborough House, 189, 196, 258; Tower, 259, 263.
Chard Road, 435.

CHICKSGROVE.

Chard, inns, history, 435; industries, old houses, 436.
 Chardstock, ch., Courthouse Farm, 435.
 Charford, 137.
 Charget Lodge, 456.
 Charlcombe, ch., 325.
 Charlcott, 60.
 Charles I. at Wilton, 127; at Chard, 435.
 — II. at Heale House, 122; Upton House, 191; Bridport, 225; Charmouth, 230; Castle Cary, 408; Trent, 415.
 Charlinch, the Agapemone, 384.
 Charlton Down, 219.
 — Park, House, 12; pictures, 12.
 — (on Avon), ch., 68.
 — Horethorn, ch., 173.
 Charminster, ch., earthworks, 208, 240.
 Charmouth, inns, 229; battles, king's bedroom, ch., fossil remains, 230.
 Charny Down, 325.
 Charterhouse on Mendip 398, 399, 405.
 —, Hinton, 326.
 Chart Knoll, 227.
 Chatham, Earl of, at Marlborough, 34; at Stratford, 122; at Burton, 444.
 Chatterton, the poet, 350.
Cheddar, inns, cheeses, ch., market cross, 397; caverns, cliffs, mines, 398.
 Cheddington, ch., 430.
 Chedzoy, ch., 382.
 Chelborough, West, ch., hill, 226.
 Chelvey Court, ch., 369.
 Cherhill White Horse, 18.
 Chesil Bank, 252; its formation, shipwrecks, 253.
 —, beginning of, 225.
 Chesilton, 254, 255.
 Chesterblade, ch. 273, 416.
 Chetnole, ch., 239.
 Cnettle Hole, 145.
 Cheverell, Great and Little, ch., 83.
 Chew Magna, ch., Manor-house, 424.
 — river, 422.
 — Stoke, parsonage, 424.
 Chewton Mendip, ch., cross, 425.
 — Priory, 426.
 Cheyne Court, 26.
 —, Sir John, 66.
 Chickerell, West, 214.
 Chicks Grove, 157.

CHIDOICK.

Chidoock, ch., ruined house, 228.
Chilcompton, ch., 421.
 Child Okeford, 267.
 Chilfrome, ch., 237.
 Chilmark, ch., down, quarries, John of, 157.
 Chilthorne Domer, 429.
 Chilton Foliet, 64.
 — House, 64.
 — Priory, 307, 381.
 Chilver-Combe Bottom, 165.
 Chimney Rock, 234.
 Chinnock, East, ch., West, ch., Middle, ch., 411, 431.
 Chipley Park, 392.
Chippenham, churches, history, Maud Heath's Causeway, 13, 14.
 Chipstable, 473.
 Chisbury, 65.
 Chiselborough, ch., 431.
 Chiselbury Camp, 157.
Chiseldon, ch., 29.
 Chisenbury, Priors Camp, 68.
 Chlorus's Camp, 81.
 Cholderton, ch., Manor-house, 80.
 Christian Malford, 13.
 Christon, ch., 397.
 Church Cliffs, 234.
 — Hope, Cove of, 257.
 Churchill, Court, ch., 394.
 Church Knowle, ch., House, 201.
 Chute, Forest, Lodge, 45, 77.
 Cistvaens, 67, 213, 214, 215, 420.
 Clack Hill, Abbey, 7.
 Clapton-in-Gordano, Court-house, 367; ch., 368.
 Clarendon, constitutions of, forest, history, palace, 133; Lodge, 86, 133.
 Clarendon, Lord, the historian, at Purton, 27; birth-place, 156.
 Clatford Bottom, 35.
 Claverton, 56; ch., Manor, down, 77, 326.
 Clavinium, Roman station of, 213.
 Clearbury, 134.
 — Ring, 136.
 Cleeve Abbey, 449, 450; chapel, 450.
 — Combe, Toot, Court, ch., 369, 393.
 — Old, ch., cross, 450.
Clevedon, inns, 370; Myrtle Cottage, churches, Dial Hill, 371; Court, 372.
 Cley Hill, 148, 150.
 Cliffe Pypard, ch., Manor-house, whirlwind at, 6.
Clifton, Bridge, 367.

COMPTON.

Clifton, inns, 359; observatory, earthworks, St. Vincent's rocks, suspension bridge, downs, zoological gardens, churches, 360; college, Hot wells, Cook's Folly, 361.
 — Maybank, House, 183.
 — *Maybank*, 239.
 Clock at Wells, 294.
 Cloford, ch., 416.
 Clontsham Hill, 461.
Clutton, ch., 424.
 Coach attacked by a lioness, 81.
 Coaxdon Mill, 435.
 Cock Hill, 381.
 Cockercombe, 381.
Codford, St. Mary's, ch.; St. Peter's, ch.; Camp, 145.
 Coker Court, 412, 429.
 — East, 429.
 — West, *ib.*
 — North, House, *ib.*
 Cold Kitchen Hill, 154.
Cole, 273, 405.
 Coleridge, the poet, at Calne, 18; at Box, 26; at Clevedon, 371; at Nether Stowey, 466.
 Colerne, ch., 26.
 Coles Farm, 26.
 Coleshill, House, ch., 2.
 Collier, Rev. J., ejection of, 143.
Collingbourne Ducis, ch., 45, 78; Kingston, ch., 44, 78; Sutton, 44; Wood, 46.
 Collingbourne, William, rhyme of, 13.
 Colmer's Hill, 228.
 Colston, Edward, monument of, 352.
 — Hall, 356.
 Columns—
 Ailesbury, 44.
 Lansdown, 18.
 Maud Heath's, 14.
 On Black Down, 214, 223.
 Colway, Old, House, 234.
 Combe, 475.
 — Bissett, ch., 140.
 — Down, 77, 323.
 — Flory, ch., 446.
 Combehay, Park, 326; ch., 419.
Combe Road, 449.
 Combe's Ditch, 219.
 Combe, Sydenham, 447.
 Compton Abbas, ch., 267.
 — Basset, House, ch., 19.
 — Bishop, ch., caverns, 397.
 — Castle, 410.
 — Chamberlayne, House, pictures at, ch., Park, 156.

CRICKLADE.

Compton Dundon, ch., Manor-house, 426.
 — Martin, ch., 396, 426.
 — Pauncefoot, ch., 410.
 Coneygore, 229.
Congresbury, ch., 393.
 Conholt Park, 45.
 Conie Castle, 231.
 Conkwell, 76.
 Connaught's Hole, 247.
 Conygar Hill, tower, 456.
 Cook's Folly, 361.
 Cope at Chedzoy, 382.
 Cophead, 149; barrow, 150.
 Copley Hill, 426.
 Corfe Castle, history, 197; gallant defence of, 198; ruins, 199; ch, 200; museum, 201.
 — Mullen, ch., 258.
 Corscombe, ch., 226, 430.
 Corsley, ch., Manor House, 150.
Corsham, ch., 23.
 — Court, 23; pictures, 24.
 Corston, ch., 20.
 Corton Denham, ch., 182.
 Coryate, Tom, the pedestrian, 412.
 Cothay, Manor-house, 392.
 Cothelstone Manor-house, 383; ch., Park, 446, 469.
 Cotley Hill, 148.
 Countesbury, camp, 463.
 Couple Cross, 456.
 Court Hill, 52.
 Courtenay, Wootton, ch., 456.
 Cove of Church Hope, 257.
 Cow and Calf, 224, 227.
 Cowsfield House, 85.
 Cowslip Green, 394.
 Crabbe, the poet, rector of Trowbridge, grave, 53.
 Cranborne, ch., 138; Chase, Manor-house, Castle Hill, 138, 139, 217.
Cranmore, 416.
 — East, ch., 416.
 — Hall, *ib.*
 — West, ch., *ib.*
 Crawford Castle, Bridge, 263.
 — Tarrant, bridge, castle, ch., 219.
 Crawlboys Wood, 46.
 Creech, heath, pits, barrow, grange, 196.
 — Hill, Camp, 273, 407.
 Cretinism at Chiselborough, 431.
 Creeping Oak, 43.
Crewkerne, inns, industries, ch., Grammar School, 430.
 Cricket Lodge, 432.
 Cricket St. Thomas, ch., 432.
 Cricklade, churches, 28; history, 27.

CRIMMER.

Crimmer (i.e. Cromlech),
Crock Lane, 237.
Crippen, Joanna, snowed up,
435.
Crocodile, the Swanage, 243.
Cromlechs—
Avebury, 36.
The Devil's Den, 35.
Murtry Hill, 35.
Temple Bottom, 30.
Crooked Lane, 378.
Crook Hill, 429.
Crook's Peak, 397.
Cross and Hand, 238.
Croscombe, ch., cross, inn,
Manor-house, 418, 421.
Crosses, Ancient—
Alford, 408.
Bleadon, 376.
Bradford Abbas, 183.
Bristol, 171.
Castle Combe, 21.
Cheddar, 397.
Chewton Mendip, 425.
Cleeve, Old, 450.
Croscombe, 418.
Crowcombe, 470.
Decuman's, St., 448.
Doulting, 417.
Dunster, W., 456.
Halsway, Lower, 471.
Hinton St. George, 431.
Horsington, 271.
Lacock, 49.
Lodge Hill, 399.
Loxton, 394.
Luccombe, 459.
Ludgershall, 46.
Malmesbury, 11.
Minehead, 458.
Muchelney, 442.
Rampisham, 238.
Salisbury, 109.
Selworthy, 459.
Shepton Mallet, 418.
Spaxton, 384.
Stalbridge, 268.
Strington, 468.
Wedmore, 306.
Wembdon, 381.
Whatley, 403.
Wick, St. Lawrence, 375.
Wilton, 125.
Crowcombe Heathfield, 447.
Crowcombe, 447, 391; ch.,
cross, Manor, Court, pic-
tures, 469, 470.
Crowe, Rev. W., 69;
"Lewesdon Hill," 227.
Croydon Hill, 456.
Crucifix at Wardour Castle,
159.
Cucking-stool, 6.
Cucklington, ch., 273.
Cudworth, ch., 437.
Culbone, 462.

DIVES.

Culpepper's, Dish, Spoon,
261.
Culver, 250.
Cunetio, ancient, 43.
Cunnington, the antiquary,
146.
Curry, North, ch., 390.
— Rivell, ch., 444.
Cutcombe, 474.

D.

Dacombs, 201.
Daggens Road, 137.
Damerham Knoll, 134.
Damorey Court, oak, 264.
Danby, Lord, monument and
epitaph, 8.
Dancing Hill, 242.
— Ledge, quarry, 247.
Dane Leys, 61.
Danes, the, at Watchet, 449.
Danesborough, 468.
Danvers, Family, 7.
Dauntsey, 6; ch. 7.
Dauntsey, Winterbourn, 80.
Davies, Sir John, the poet,
birthplace, 158.
Deadman's Bay, 253.
Dean, West, House, ch., 84.
Decoy at Abbotsbury, 216.
Decumans, St., ch., cross,
448.
Deptford inn, 143.
Derry Hill, ch., 15.
Deverel, Brixton, ch., 154;
Hill, ch., 154; Kingston,
155; Longbridge, 154;
Monkton, 155.
Devil's Bellows, 234.
— Den, 35.
— Nightcap, 246.
— Punchbowl, 399.
Devizes, Bear inn, 74; Castle,
churches, 72; cross, his-
tory, 71; museum, 74.
Devonian rocks, xii.
Dewlish, ch., 220.
Dial Hill, 371.
— Quarry, 368.
Digby family at Sherborne,
181.
Dillington House, 437.
Dinder, ch., Manor-house,
418, 421.
Dinnington, 436.
Dinton, 156, ch., 157; House,
156; earthworks, 157.
Discove, 406.
Ditcheat, ch., Manor-house,
274.
Ditteridge, 327.
Divelish river, 268.
Dives, Sir L., 180.

DUNSTER.

Dobbs's, Part of, 474.
Doddington Copper Mine
467.
— Court, 468.
Dolberry, 395.
Donheads, the, 142.
Donhead Hall, 165.
— St. Andrew, ch., 164.
— St. Mary, ch., Priory,
165.
Donyatt, ch., quarries, Manor-
house, 437.
Doone, Glen, the, 463.
Dorchester, inns, 203; ave-
nues, Fordington Field,
history, 204; churches,
205; castle, county mu-
seum, amphitheatre, 206;
Poundbury, 207 also 222.
Dorsetshire, Physical Fea-
tures, xxxii. "Felix,"
xxxiii. "Petræa," xxxiv.
"Deserta," Geology, xxxv.
Railway System, xxxviii.
Antiquities, xxxviii. Ar-
chitecture, xl.
Doulting, barn, ch., quarries
416; cross, well, 417.
Dowlands Farm, 234.
Dowliswake, ch., 438.
Down-Ampney, ch., 28.
Down Cliff, 225, 229.
— House, 219, 263.
Downshay, 247.
Downside, 421.
Downton, ch., Old Court,
Manor-house, the Moot,
136-7; Maze, 137.
Draycot Cerne, ch., 15.
Draycott, 399.
Drax family, 259.
Druid's Head, 84.
Dryden at Charlton Park, 13.
Duck, Stephen, 68.
Ducking-stool, 6.
Duke's House, 56.
Dulcot Hill, 284, 419.
Dulverton, ch., 473.
Duncliff, 167, 168.
Dundas Aqueduct, 77.
Dundon Beacon, 426.
— Compton, ch., 426.
Dundry Hill, 364, 422.
— West, ch., 422.
Dungeon, the, 241.
Dungy Head, 252.
Dunkerton, ch., 419.
Dunkery Beacon, view from,
461.
Dunstan, St., at Malmesbury,
9; at Calne, 18; at Glas-
tonbury, 277; at Cheddar,
397.
Dunster, 451; ch., 454-5;
inn, yarn market, 455;
cross, 456.

DUNSTAN.

- Dunstan Castle, history, siege, 452; description, 453; park, 456.
 Durdle Bay, 252.
 D'Urfe, Tom, at Ramsbury, 64.
 Durleigh, ch., Bower Farm, 381.
 Durlston Bay, 246.
 — Head, 193, 243, 246.
 Durnford, Great, ch., house, 122.
 Durrington, ch., Long walls, 69.
Durston, house, 384, 439.
 Durweston, ch., 265.
 Dyer, Sir James, 271.

E.

- Earldoms, wood of the, 85.
 Earl Stoke, ch., house, 62.
 Earthworks, Camps, Castles, etc.:—
 Abbotsbury Camp, 216.
 Anne's Hill, St., 67.
 Arn Hill, 150.
 Avebury, 36.
 Badbury Castle, 29.
 Badbury Rings, 182.
 Banbury, 268.
 Bannerdown, 26.
 Barbury Camp, 30.
 Batheaton, 473.
 Battlesbury, 148.
 Bilbury Ring, 143, 144.
 Blaise Hill, 363.
 Bleadon Hill, 376.
 Bower Walls, 360.
 Bratton, 61.
 Brean Down, 376.
 Broadway Camp, 69, 84.
 Bury Castle, 459.
 — Wood, 25.
 Buzbury, 219.
 Cadbury Camp (near Westonsuper-mare), 373.
 — Castle (near Sparkford), 271, 273, 409.
 Caer Badon, 326.
 Casterley, 68, 84.
 Castle Combe, 21.
 — Ditches (North of Salisbury), 84.
 — (South of Salisbury), 134.
 Castle Hill (East of Salisbury), 85.
 — (near Cricklade), 28.
 — (near Taunton), 472.
 — Neroche, 438.
 — Rings (Bere Regis), 222.

EARTHWORKS.

- Earthworks, &c.—
 Castle Hill (Shaftesbury), 165.
 Catlstock Castle, 237.
 Chalbury, 213.
 Charnminster, 208.
 Chisbury, 65.
 Chiselbury, 157.
 Chisenbury, 68.
 Chlorus's Camp, 81.
 Clearbury Ring, 136.
 Cley Hill, 150.
 Codford Circle, 144, 145.
 Combe's Ditch, 219.
 Countesbury, 463.
 Cranborne Castle Hill, 138.
 Crawford Castle, 263, 219.
 Creech Hill, 273.
 Danesborough, 467.
 Dolbury, 395.
 Dungeon, the, 241.
 Easton, 66.
 Eggardon Hill, 224, 237.
 Ellworthy Barrows, 447.
 Flower's Barrow, 250.
 Gallows Hill (Dorset), 201.
 — (Somerset), 456.
 Grim's Ditch, 134.
 Grovely Castle, 143.
 — Works, 142.
 Hales Castle, 155.
 Hambdon Hill, 415.
 Hambledon Hill, 266.
 Hampton Down, 323.
 Hamshill Ditches, 143.
 Hanging Langford, 143, 144.
 Haydon Hill Castle, 77.
 Hod Hill, 265.
 Knap Hill, 66.
 Knolton, 189.
 Liddbury, 68.
 Liddington Castle, 29.
 Maesbury Castle, 421.
 Maiden Castle, 207.
 Martensell Hill, 66.
 Milborne Wick, 173.
 Moot, the, 137.
 Neroche Castle, 436.
 Nettlecombe Toot, 222.
 Newbury, 403.
 Norton Fitzwarren, 391.
 Ogbury Camp, 79.
 Oldbarrow, 463.
 Oldbury Castle (near Calne), 18.
 Oldbury (on Salisbury Plain), 144, 145.
 — (near Wareham), 201.
 Old Ditch, 83.
 Old Warren, 215.
 Oliver's Castle, 75.
 Ponter's Ball, 275.
 Poorstock Castle, 237.
 Poundbury, 207.

ELDON.

- Earthworks, &c.—
 Quarley Hill, 80.
 Rawlsbury Rings, 222.
 Rings Hill, 250.
 Ringsbury, 27.
 Robin Hood's Ball, 84.
 — — Bower, 150.
 Roddenbury, 155.
 Round Pound, 203.
 Rybury, 67.
 Scratchbury, 148.
 Sherstone, Great, 73.
 Shipton Beacon, 224.
 Sidbury Hill, 78.
 Silbury Hill, 41.
 Solsbury, 325.
 Spettisbury Rings, 263.
 Stantonbury, 326, 422.
 Stockton Works, 144.
 Stokeleigh Camp, 360.
 Tedbury, 403.
 Trendle, the, 240.
 Turnworth, 220.
 Vespasian's Camp, 115.
 Wadbury, 403.
 Wareham, 194.
 Weatherbury Castle, 220.
 Whichbury Camp, 134.
 Whitesheet Castle, 169.
 Wick Ball Camp, 156.
 — Rocks, 325.
 Winkelbury, 141.
 Woodbury Hill, 201, 260.
 Wolf's Barrow, 201.
 Worlebury Camp, 374.
 Yarlinton, 408.
 Yarnbury Camp, 144.
 East Castle, 143.
 Eastbury Park, 218.
 Easton (on Portland), 254.
 — (Somerset), 399.
 — Earthworks, 66.
 — Grey, 13.
 — Hill, 78.
 — Piers or Percy, 20.
 Eastover, 379, 380.
 Eaton Down, 25.
 Ebber Rocks, 304.
 Ebbesborne Wake, ch., 141.
 Ebele Brook, 140.
 Echo, triple, at Dunster, 454.
 Edington (Wilts), ch., history, priory, 61.
 Edington (Somerset), 306, 426.
 Edmonshaw, ch., 139.
 Edward the Martyr, remains of, at Shaftesbury, 166; murder of, 197.
 Edwards, Bryan, 60.
 Effigies of knights in armour, 429.
 Eggardon Hill, earthworks, 224, 237.
 Eldon, Lord, at Encombe, 248.

ELEANOR.

Eleanor, damsel of Brittany, imprisonment of, 197, 330.
 Ell Barrow, 84.
 Ellworthy Barrows, 447.
 Elm and Ash, 13.
 Embarrow Pond, 403.
 Emmitt Hill, 248.
 Encombe, 201, 243.
 Enford, ch., barrows, 68.
 Englishcombe, ch., barn, yew-trees, 326.
 Enmore Castle, park, ch., 383, 469.
 Ensbury House, 189.
 Ethandune, supposed scene of battle of, 25, 61, 307, 426.
 Ethelbald and Ethelbert, Kings, graves of, 177.
 Ethelred, King, grave of, 184.
 Evelyn at Cadenham, 15.
Evercreech Junct., New, ch., 273.
 Everley, East, house, ch., pictures, 45, 78.
Evershot, ch., 238.
 Exbridge, 474.
 Exe river, source, 464.
 Exford, 465.
 Exmoor Hills, forest, 463; ponies, red deer, mines, ch., 464.
 Exton, ch., 474.

F

Fairfield, 467.
 Farleigh Hungerford, Castle, 57; history, chapel, 58, 326; church, House, 59.
 — Monckton, clump, 56; ch., 57; House, 56; tower, 77, 326.
 Farley, almshouse, ch., 86.
 Farrington Gournay, ch., Manor-house, 424.
 Ferne, 165.
 Fern House, 142.
 Ferraby, Rev. G., 70.
 Feversham, cruelties of, 382.
 Fielding, the novelist, at East Stower, 168.
 Fifehead Magdalene, ch., 258.
 Fifield Bavent, ch., 141.
 Figbury or Fripsbury Ring, 81, 135.
 Figheldean, ch., 69.
 Fisherton, ch., 108.
 — Delamere House, 144.
 Fittleton, ch., 68.
 Fitzurse Hill, 20.
 Flat Holme, 376.
 Flax Bourton, ch., 368.
 Fleet, East, ch., House, 214.

GALLOWES.

Fleet Water at Portland, 214, 253.
 Flower's Barrow, 250.
 Fons Drogenis, 17.
 Fonthill Abbey, tower, fêtes, sale, wall, park, 162; hermit's cave, 163.
 —, Bishop, ch., 161.
 —, Giffard, ch., 163.
 Fontnell Magna, ch., barrows, 267.
 Ford Abbey, 235, 432-4.
 —, Winterbourn, 80.
Fordingbridge, ch., 137.
 Fordington, field, 204; ch., 205, 223.
 Forest, submerged, 451.
 — Hill, 43.
 Forests:—
 Braden, 28.
 Exmoor, 464.
 Melksham, 47.
 Neroche, 436.
 Pewsham, 17.
 Savernake, 43.
 Fortune's Well, 254.
 Fort Victoria at Portland, 255.
 Fosbury, 77.
 Fosse Way, Roman, 13, 28, 274, 326, 418, 421.
 Fovant, ch., 157.
 Fox, Henry, Lord Holland, 81.
 —, Sir Stephen, 86, 407.
 Foxcote, 420.
 Foxley, 13.
 Frampton, Bp., birthplace, &c., 219.
 —, ch., court, Roman pavement, 236.
Freshford, ch., 56, 76.
 Freshwater, 248.
 Friar's Heel, legend of, 116.
 Frome, inns, industries, history, ch., 400; Calvary steps, Ken's monument, 401; Vallis Bottom, 402.
 — St. Quintin, ch., 238.
 — Vauchurch, ch., 236.
 —, Whitfield House, 204.
 — Mouth, 194.
 — River, xxxiv., 194.
 — River (Bristol), 334.
 Froxfield, hospital, 65.
 Frying-pan, the, 415.
 Fuller, Thomas, his rectory, 227.
 Fyfield, ch., Lych Gate, 42.

G.

Gad Cliff, 249.
 Gallows Hill (Wilts), 134.
 — (Dorset), 201.

GRINSTEAD.

Gallows Hill (Somerset), 456.
 Gasper Pits, 272.
 Gaston, farmhouse, 157.
 Gaulden Farm, 447.
 Gaunt's House, 189.
 Gay, the poet, at Amesbury, 115.
 Geology of the three Counties, vii.
 — of Wilts, xxiii.; Dorset, xxxv.; Somerset, xlv.
 Table of sedimentary rocks, xiii.
 Giant Gorum's chair, 363.
 — Ghyst's Hole, 360.
 Giant's Hill, 240.
 Giffard, Sir Alex., tomb of, 145.
 Gildas, the historian, 377; grave, 276.
Gillingham, history, ch., 167.
 Glanville, the lawyer, 6.
 Glanvilles Wootton, ch., 241.
Glastonbury, inns, abbey, derivation, 275; legends, history, 276; dissolution, destruction, 278; remains, St. Joseph's Chapel, 279; Abbot's kitchen, Abbot's Barn, 280; George Inn, churches, 281; Wirrall or Weary-all Hill, Tor Hill, chapel, tower, thorn, 282; waters, vine-yards, 283.
 — Cup, 159.
 Glenthorne, 463.
 Gloucester, Earl Robert of, 329.
 Glove-making at Yeovil, 411.
 Goathurst, 383.
 Goblin Combe, 368.
 Godlington, 245.
 Godmanstone, ch., 240.
 Golden Cap Hill, 225, 229, 234.
 Gorwell, 244.
 Gothelney Manor-house, 384.
 Gournay, Farrington, ch., Manor-house, 424.
 — Court, 426.
 Grabhurst Hill, 456.
Grafton, East, ch., 44, 65.
Grately, 80.
 Greenaleigh, 457; farm, 458.
 Greenham Manor, farm, 392.
 Greenhill, pictures, 147.
 Green Ore, farm, cavern, 426.
 Greensand and chalk, ix.
 Grenville, Sir Bevil, 311; monument of, 324.
 Grey mare and colts, 214.
 Grey Wethers, xxv., 36.
 Grim's Ditch, 134, 137.
Grimstone, 236.
 Grinstead, East, 86.

GRITTLETON.

Grittleton House, pictures, 22.
 Grixy, 458.
 Grovely Castle, 143.
 — Wood, 142, 155.
 — Works, 142, 155.
 Gurney Slade, 421.
 Gussage, St. Andrew, ch., 217.
 —, St. Michael, ch., *ib.*
 — All Saints, ch., *ib.*
 Guthrun, King, baptism of, 441.

H.

Haddon Down, 473.
 Hadspen House, 273, 408.
 Hales Castle, 155.
Hallatrow, 424.
 Halle, John, the hall of, 109.
 Halsway, Lower, Manor-house, ch., cross, 471.
 Halswell, wreck of, 247.
 — House, 383, 469.
 Ham, High, ch., 443.
 —, Low, ch., house, 443.
 —, the, 60.
 — Wood, 418.
 Hambledon Hill, 266.
 Hamdon, or Ham Hill, quarries, 415.
 Hammerdon Hill, 224.
 Hampreston Heath, 183.
 Hampshire Cross, 79; Gap, 80.
 Hampton Down, 323, rocks, 77, 323, 325.
 Hamptworth Lodge, 85.
 Hamshill ditches, 143.
Hamworthy, Ch., 190; *Junct.*, 190.
 Handfast Point, 243, 244.
 Handford House, ch., 267.
 Hanging Chapel 442.
 — Langford, 143, 144.
 Hangcross Tree, 436.
 Hanham, Grange House, 328.
 Hannington, ch., 3.
 Hardenhuish Park, 15.
 Hardington Park, 404.
 Harding, glass painter at Blandford, 264.
 Hardown Hill, 229.
 Hardway, the, 172.
 Hardy, Admiral Sir Thomas, birthplace and column, 214, 223.
 Hares' Holes, 67.
 Harnham, East and West, ch., bridge, 108; hill, 133.
 Harptree, West, 396; ch., caverns, 425.
 — East, ch., court, caverns, 425.
 Hartcliff Rocks, 368.

HIGHEST.

Harte, the poet, birthplace, 34.
 Hartgills, their murder by Charles Lord Stourton, 95.
 Haselbury, ch., 431.
Hatch Beauchamp, Lodge, Park, 439.
 Hatch Court, 389.
 — House, 164.
 Hautville, Sir John, 423.
 Hautville's Quoit, 423.
 Hawkchurch, ch., 434.
 Hawksdown, 235.
 Hawkstreet, 51.
 Haxton Down, 78.
 Haydon Hill Castle, 77.
 Haydon's Gully, 426.
 Hay Farm, 234.
 Hays Castle, 155.
 Hazelbury House, 26.
 — Bryan, ch., 268.
 Hazlegrove House, 410; oaks, *ib.*
 Hazlitt at Winterslow, 81.
 Heale House, Hill, 122.
 Heatherton Park, 301.
 Heaven's Gate at Longleat, 150.
 Hell's Ladder, 304.
 — Stone, 209, 215, 223.
 Henbury, Upper, Lower, House, 258.
 Henbury, ch., cottages, 363.
 Hen Cliff, 249.
 Hendford, 412.
 Henover Hill, 173.
 Henry VIII. at Wulfall, 66.
Henstridge, ch., ash, 270.
 Hemyock, 392.
 Herbert family, 127.
 — of Lea, Lord, 126.
 —, George, at Dauntsey, 8; parsonage and grave, 123.
 Hermit's Cave, 163.
 Herringstone, 207.
 Hertford, Earl, monument of, 101.
 —, Lady, 33.
 Hestercombe, 389.
 Hethfelton, 201.
 Hewish, Hill, British village at, 66.
 Heyden Down, 459, 472.
Heytesbury, ch., history, hospital, Park, pictures, 146.
 Heywood House, 62.
Highbridge, ch., 307, 378.
 High Cross of Bristol, 171.
 — Hall, 189.
 — Stoy, 241.
 Higher Combe, 474.
 Highest Points of Wiltshire, xx., 62; Dorset, xxxiv., 228; Somerset, xliii., 461; Mendip, 399; Quantock, xliiii., 390.

HUNGERFORD.

Highway, ch., 19.
 Highworth, ch., 3.
 Hill Deverel, ch., 154.
 Hill-Farrance, ch., 391.
 — Scars, 368.
 Hilmarton, ch., 19.
 Hilton, ch., 222.
 Hindon, ch., 161.
 Hinton Abbey, 326.
 —, Broad, ch., 6.
 —, Charterhouse, 59, 326.
 — House, 59.
 —, Little, ch., 190.
 — Martel, ch., 190.
 — St. George, 430, ch.; cross, 431.
 — St. Mary, ch., 268.
 History of the three Counties, xiv.
 Hoare, Sir Richard Colt, grave of, 171.
 Hobbes, the philosopher, birthplace of, 12.
 Hod Hill, 265.
 Holes Bay, 190.
 Holford, ch., 468.
 Hollam House, 475.
 Hollis, Thomas, grave of, 226.
 Holloway, 316; hill, 326.
 Holme, East, priory, 197.
 — Flat, 376, 377.
 —, Steep, *ib.*
 Holnest, ch., Lodge, 242.
 Holnicote, Park, 459.
Holt Junct., 52, 76.
 Holwell Cavern, 467.
 — Church, 182.
 — House, 242.
 Holywell Tunnel, 238.
 Honnington, ch., down, 133.
 Hood, Admiral, monument of, 223, 426; birthplace, 434.
 Hooker, Richard, rector of East Boscombe, 80.
 Honeygore, 306.
 Hooper, Bp., at Cleve, 450.
 Hopton, Sir Ralph, at Witham, 405.
 Horner, 461; river and valley, 459.
 Horner, "Little Jack Horner," 403.
 Horningsham, ch., 153.
 Horsey Slime, 379.
 Horsington, cross, 271.
 Horton, ch., Park, 189; observatory, 190.
 Horwood Spa, 271.
 Houndstreet Park, 424.
 Hubba's Low, 15.
 Hugh, St., of Lincoln, at Witham, 405.
 Huish Episcopi, ch., 442.
Hungerford, 62.

HUNGERFORD.

- Hungerford, Sir E., treachery of, 160.
 —, Lady, imprisonment of, 58.
 Hunter's Combe, 390, 466.
 Huntspill, ch., 378.
 Hurcot Hill, 427.
 Hurdcot House, 155.
 Hurley Beacon, 471.
 Hussey, the artist, birthplace of, 268.
 Hut inn, 223.
 Hutchins, historian of Dorset, monument of, 196.
 Hut-circles, *see* British Villages.
 Hutton, ch., Manor-house, 376; caves, 394.
 Hyde, Sir Nicolas, birthplace of, 161.
 Hyde, Kennels, 260.

I.

- Icknield Street, 87, 217, 259.
 Idmiston, ch., 80.
 Igneous vents, 368, 395.
 Ilchester, history, ch., former importance of, 428.
 Ile Abbots, ch., 438.
 —, Brewers, ch., 439.
 —, river, 438.
 Ilford, bridges, 464.
 Ilminster, industries, ch., 436; grammar school, 437.
 Ilton, ch., 438.
 Imber, ch., 148.
 Ina, King, founder of Wells, 285.
 Inkpen Beacon, highest chalk down in England, 62.
 Inverted arches at Wells, 291, 294.
 Iron chapel in Salisbury Cathedral, 99.
 Iron-stone, xxv., 76, 447, 449, 464.
 Ischalis, ancient, 428.
 Isis, river, 27.
 Ivel or Yeo river, 182.
 Ivy Church, 86, 132.
 —, House, 15.
 Iwerne Courtney, ch., 266.
 —, Minster, house, ch., 266.

J.

- Jack's Castle, 172, 407.
 James II. at Warminster, 150.
 Jeffreys' "Bloody Assize," 205, 232, 386.
 Jerusalem Hill, 181.
 Jewel, Bishop, at Lacock,

KINGSWESTON.

- 49; at Salisbury, 92; died at Monkton Farleigh, 57; grave, 101.
 Joliffe, Peter, 192.
 Johnson, Dr., at Kingston Lacy, 188.
 Jordan Hill, 213.
 Jordans, 437.
 Joseph, St., of Arimathea, legends of, 276.

K.

- Kate's Bench, 154.
 Kellaways Rock, 13.
 Kelston Park, 324; ch., Round Hill, 324, 327.
 Ken, Bishop, at Poulshot, 75; at Longleat, 151; his library, 153; at Lewston, 242; at Wells, 286; his monument, 401.
 Kenn, ch., 370.
 Kennet, East and West, 42; Long Barrow, 42.
 —, river, xxii., 42.
 —, and Avon Canal, 71, 76.
 Kew Steps, 374.
 Kewstoke, ch., 374.
 Keynsham, history, ch., 327; hostelry for pilgrims, 328.
 Kilmersdon, ch., 424.
 Kilmington, ch., 172.
 Kilve, ch., 468.
 Kimmeridge coal, 249; clay, 249, 252; coal money, jet, 249.
 —, valley, ch., 249.
 King Barrow, 147.
 —, Oak, 43.
 King's Arms, house at Salisbury, 110.
 Kingsbury Episcopi, ch., old house, 444.
 Kingsdon, 427; ch., house, 428.
 Kingsdown, 326.
 Kingsettle, 167, 172.
 Kingston (Bradford - on-Avon) House, 56; Duchess of, 56.
 —, (Dorchester) House, 208; park, 262.
 —, (Isle of Purbeck) ch., 201, 248.
 Kingston (Taunton) ch., cider, 390.
 —, Deverel, 155.
 —, Lacy, house, 186; pictures, 187; woods, 263.
 —, Russel, 223.
 —, Seymour, ch., 370.
 Kingsweston, house, hill, 363.

LAWRENCE.

- Kington St. Michael, ch., nunnery, 20.
 —, Langley, 20.
 —, West, ch., 21.
 Kingston, ch., house, 426.
 Kirk, Col., cruelties at Taunton, 385.
 Kitesford, 392.
 Knap Hill, earthworks and tumuli, 66.
 Knighton Long Barrow, 84.
 Knightstone, 374.
 Knock Castle, 148.
 Knolle, 226.
 Knolton, ch., earthworks, 189.
 Knook Ch., 146.
 Knowle, Church, ch., house, 201.
 —, the, 201.
 —, Abbot, 336, 339, 341.
 Knoyle, East, ch., house, pictures, 164.

L.

- Lace-factories at Chard, 436.
 Lackham, 15.
 Lacock ch., 49.
 —, Abbey, history, pictures, abbey barn, cross, 19, also 47-49.
 Lady Well, the, 378.
 Lake House, 122.
 Lambert's Castle, 231, 229, 434.
 Lambert, the botanist, at Boyton, 145.
 Lamb's Lair, 425.
 Lamyat, 273.
 Landford, ch., lodge, Manor-house, 85.
 Langford Court, 395.
 —, Hanging, 143-4.
 —, Little, ch., 143.
 —, Steeple, ch., 143.
 Langport, marshes, history, battle, 441; ch., Hanging chapel, 442.
 Langridge, ch., 324.
 Lanhill Farm, tumulus at, 15.
 Lansdown Hill, battle-field, 324.
 Lansdowne Column, 18.
 Latimer, Bishop, oak and pulpit, 21.
 Laverstock, asylum, ch., 81.
 Lavington, Market, ch., 82.
 —, West, or Bishop's, ch., 82.
 Lawes—the musician, birthplace, 156.
 Lawrence, Sir Thomas, 74.

LEAD-MINES.

Lead-mines, 395, 398.
 Leaning Tower at Bristol, 353.
 Lechmere Water, 433.
 Leigh (near Yeovil), ch., maze, 239.
 — Common, 272.
 — Court, pictures, 364.
 — (on Mendip), ch., 403.
 — Delamere, ch., 22.
 — Down, 368.
 — House, 434.
 Leighland Chapel, 447.
 Lewesdon Hill, 224, 227.
 "Lewesdon Hill," Crowe's poem, 227.
 Lewston Park, 242.
 Lias, the, x.
 Liddbury, 68.
 Lidden river (Wilts), 168.
 — — (Dorset), 269.
 Liddington Castle, 29.
 Limington, ch., 429.
Limply Stoke, ch., 56, 76.
 Lioness at Winterslow Hut, 81.
 Littlecote, House, 62; mysterious crime at, 63; pavement, 64.
 Littleton, High, 424.
 Lobcombe Corner, 81.
 Lockeridge, 67.
 Lock's Well, 17.
 Locke, the philosopher, birth-place of, 393.
Lodge Hill, ch., cross, 399.
 Loders, ch., 237.
 Lodmoor Marsh, 213.
 Long, Henry, murder of, 7, 23.
 Long Bredy Gate, 223.
 — Burton, ch., 242.
 — Knoll, 169, 172.
 — Sutton, 443.
 Longbridge Deverel, 154.
 Longford House, foundation, 130; pictures, 131.
 Longespée, William, 1st Earl of Salisbury, 90, 95.
 — —, 2nd Earl of Salisbury, 96.
 Longleat, 150; history, 151; pictures, park, house, 151-152.
 Losel's Wood, 270.
 Lower Marsh Farm, 456.
 Loxton, ch., cross, bone-caves, 394.
 Luccombe, ch., cross, 459.
 Luckford Lake, 242.
 Lucott Hill, 465.
Ludgershall, Castle, 45; ch., cross, 46.
 Ludlow, General, birthplace of, 154.
 Lufton, ch., 445.

MARLBOROUGH.

Lugbury, tumulus, 21.
 Lullington, ch., 404.
 Lulworth, Castle, history, 250; ch., lake, 197, 201, 251.
 — Cove, 214, 251.
 — West, ch., 251.
 Luxborough, ch., 456.
Lydeard, Bishop's, ch., 445.
 — St. Lawrence, 447.
 Lydiard Tregoz, ch., 5.
Lyne Regis, inns, position, history, 231; siege of, landing of Monmouth, 232; ancient trade, ch., worthies, 233; the Cobb, whispering gallery, geology, 234.
 Lymsham, leaning tower, ch., 378.
 Lynch Chapel, 462.
 Lyndale, 463.
 Lyng, East, 439; ch., 440.
 Lynmouth, 463.
 Lynton, 463.
 Lytchet Bay, 194.
 — Beacon, 190.
 — House, 189.
 — Heath, 194.
 Lytes Cary House, 427, 428.

M.

Maddington, ch., 83.
Maesbury, Castle, 421.
 Maes Knoll, 422.
 Magna Charta, copy of at Salisbury, 102.
 Maiden Bradley, ch., house, knoll, park, 154.
 — Castle, 207.
Maiden Newton, ch., 236, 208.
 Main Down, 472.
 Malet, Chief Justice, 182.
Malmesbury, inns, history, 8; castle, abbey, ch., 9; market cross, worthies, 11.
 Malmesbury, 1st Lord, his monument, 97.
 Manningford, Abbots and Braose, ch., 68.
 Manton, 35.
 Mappercombe, 237.
 Mapperton, ch., Manor-house, 227.
 Mappowder, ch., 241.
 Marden, ch., 69.
 Margaret, Queen, at Cerne Abbas, 240.
 —, last of the Plantagenets, 57.
 Mark, ch., 306.
Marlborough, 30; castle, 31;

MIDFORD.

churches, 34; college, 35; castle, inn, history, 81.
 Marm Tout, 252.
 Marnhull, ch., 268.
 Marshal's Elm inn, 426.
 Marsh Court, 270.
 Marshwood Farm, 451.
 —, Vale of, 229; chapel, castle, 229.
Marston (near Yeovil), ch., house, 410.
 — (near Frome), house, ch., orrery, 404.
 Martensell Hill, earthworks, view from, 66.
 Martin, ch., 217.
Martock, ch., Manor-house, 444, cross, 445.
 Marton, 77.
 Maskelyne, the astronomer, burial-place, 27; residence, 5.
 Maud Heath's Causeway, and column, 14.
 Maumbury, or Mambury, 206.
 Mazes or labyrinths, on Breamore Down, 134; Downton, 137; Leigh, 239; Pimperne, 219; Troytown, 262.
 Meare, ch., abbot's house, fish-house, 305.
 Melbury Hill, 167.
 — Marble, 239.
 — Osmund, ch., oaks, 239.
 — Sampford, ch., park, pictures, 238.
 Melchet Park, 85.
 Melcombe Regis, 209.
Melksham, 46; ch., forest, mineral springs, 47.
 Mellifont Abbey, 304.
Mells, 424; park, scythes, ch., manor house, 402, 403.
 Melplash, ch., court, 227.
 Mendip Hills, 395, 399; highest point of, 397, 399.
 — Lodge, 395.
 — Mines, 395, 398.
 Mere, ch., chantry-house, 168; market-house, Hall, 169.
 Merly House, 186, 262.
 Methuen family at Bradford, 56.
 Mewps Bay and Rocks, 250.
 Mews, Bp., birthplace, 182.
 Michael's Hill, St., Castle at Montacute, 414.
 Middle Hope, 375.
 Middlemarsh, 241.
 Middle Mill, 234.
 Middlezoy, ch., 383.
Midford, Castle, 323, 326, 419.

MIDGHALL.

Midghall Farm, 5.
Midsummer Norton, ch., 421.
 Milborne, St. Andrews, ch., 220.
Milborne Port, ch., Guild-hall, borough, earthworks, 173.
Milford Junct., 86.
 Milston, ch., 69.
 Milton Abbas, 220; Abbey, House, 220, 221; S. Catherine's chapel, 222.
 — Hill (Wilts), 66, 78.
 — Clevedon, ch. 274.
 — Hill (on Mendip), 304.
 — (Dorset), ch., 168.
Milverton, ch., 471; Castle Hill, 472.
Minehead, pier, history, churches, 457; cross, Feathers inn, almshouses, 458.
 Mines, iron, 447, 464; lead and zinc, 395, 398.
 Mineral springs—
 Alford, 408.
 Bath, 319.
 Clifton, 361.
 Glastonbury, 283.
 Horwood, 271.
 Melksham, 47.
 Nottingham, 213.
 Purton, 27.
 Queen's Camel, 410.
 Radipole, 213.
 Stogumber, 447.
Minely, ch., 28.
 Minterne, ch., House, 241.
Misterton, 430.
 Mitre Corner, 110.
 Mizmaze Hill, 86, 134.
 Moat, the, 135.
 Modbury, 238.
 Mole's Chamber, 464.
 Molland Down, 472.
 Monk's Conduit, 57.
 Monksilver, ch., 447.
 Monkton, 209.
 Monkton Combe, ch., 77, 324.
 Monkton Deverel, 135.
 Monkton Farleigh, ch., house, priory, 56, 57; tower, 77.
 Monmouth, Duke of, capture of, 189; landing of, 232; at Wells, 284; at Hinton St. George, 431.
 Mons Badonicus, supposed site of, 29, 188, 310.
Montacute, House, ch., Priory, 413; St. Michael's Hill and Castle, 414.
 Moore, Tom, the poet, at Sloperton, 19; grave, 50.
 Moot, the, 137.
Morebath, 473.

NEWTON.

Morecomblake, 229.
 More Critchel, ch., 189, 217.
 More, Hannah, at Wrington, 393.
Moreton, ch., House, pictures, 202.
 Morgan's Hill, 67.
 Morton, Archbishop, a monk at Cerne, 240.
 Mosterton, ch., 431.
 Motcombe House, 167.
 Mount Pleasant, 76, 323.
 Mount Sydenham, 474.
 Mowlem, John, of Swanage, 244.
 Muchelney, abbey, almonry, vicarage, cross, chapel, 442.
 Mudgeley, 306.
 Müller's Orphan Houses, 358.
 Mump, the, 440.
 Murtry Hill, 404.
 Musbury, 235.
 Mutuantonis, ancient, 13.
 Mynchin Buckland, 439.
 Myrtle Cottage, Clevedon, 371.

N.

Nadder river, 86, 108; source of, 167.
Nailsea, ch., 368; Court, 369.
 Napier, Sir Wm., at Freshford, 76.
 Nash, Beau, 314.
 Nash Court (near Sturminster), 268.
 — Court (near Yeovil), 412.
 Nelson, Fort, 251.
 Neroche Castle, 436, 438.
 — Forest, 436.
 Nether Avon, 68.
 Netherbury, ch., 227.
 Nether Cerne, ch., 240.
 — Stowey, 466; Castle, 467.
 — Street, 51.
 Nettlescomb Toot, 222.
 — ch., bones, 417.
 Nettleton, 21.
 Newbury, 403.
 New Hall, pictures, 135.
 — Park, 75.
 — Passage, 231.
 New Road, the, from Porlock to Lynton, 462.
 Newton Park, 326.
 — House (near Yeovil), 412.
 — St. Loe, ch., park, cutting, 327.
 — South, ch., 142.
 — Tony, ch., 80.

ORCHARD.

Nine Barrow Down, 201.
 — Stones, 223, 209.
 Nodes, the, 193, 245.
 Nonsuch Park, 61.
 Norrington Manor - house, 141.
 Norris, poet and divine, 44.
 North Hill, 458.
 — Moor Green, 439.
 — House, 475.
 Northover, ch., 428.
 Northwood, 283.
Norton Fitzwarren, ch., earthworks, 391.
 — Malreward, ch., 422.
 — Manor, 389.
 — St. Philip, ch., inn, elm, 420.
 — sub - Hambdon, ch., 415.
 Nothe, the, 12.
 Nottingham Waters, 213.
 Nunney Castle, ch., 403.
 Nuns' Path, 149.
 Nunton, ch., 135.
 Nynehead, ch., Court, 392.

O.

Oak, ch., 391.
 Oaks, remarkable, Damorey's Oak, 264; at Hazelgrove, 410; Latimer's Oak, 21; at Melbury Osmund, 239; in Savernake Forest, 43; at Stockham, 229.
 Oare, 463.
 Osborne, ch., 173.
 Odcombe, Tom Coryate, born at, 412; ch., 413.
 Odd Down, 326.
 Odstock, ch., farm, 134.
Ogbourne, Greater, ch., 30.
 — Lesser, 30.
 Ogbury Camp, 79, 122.
 Okeford Fitzpaine, ch., 267.
 Oldbarrow, 463.
 Oldbury or Codford circle, 144.
 — or Wolf's Barrow, 201.
 — Castle, 18.
 Old Ditch, 67, 83, 148.
 Old Harry and his wife, 193, 244.
 Olditch Court, 434.
 Oldmixon, tomb of, 380.
 Old Sarum. *See* Sarum.
 Oliver of Malmesbury, 12.
 Oliver's Castle, 75.
 Oolite, Great, x.
 Orator Hunt, 75.
 Orchardleigh, ch., pond, 404.
 Orchard Wyndham, 448.

ORCHESTON.

Orcheston, St. Mary, St. George, ch., 83.
 Orestone Point, 462.
 Orrery at Marston, 404.
 Osmington, ch., mill, burning cliff, 214.
 Oswald Bay, 252.
 Othery, ch., 440.
 Over Compton, ch., House, 411.
 — Stowey, 467.
 Overton West, ch. 42.
 Ower Moyne, ch., House, 203.
 Ower Passage, 194.

P.

Pack-Monday Fair, 179.
 Page, the buccaneer, 192.
 Palace Garden at Westbury Leigh, 60.
 Paper Mills at Bemerton, 123.
 Parkfield monument, 443.
 Park Hill, 394.
 — House, 80.
Parkstone, 190, 193.
 Parnham, 227.
 Parrett river, xlv; basin, 377; bore on, 381; sources of, 430.
 Parson's Barn, 193, 244.
 Patchin's or Pagan's Point, 194.
 Pawlet Hams, 377, Knoll, 379.
 Pembroke, Countess of, family, 127.
 — Marbles, 127.
 Pendermer, ch., manor, hill, 429.
 Pen House, 412.
 — Hill, 426.
 — Mill, 411.
 — Pits, 169, 272.
 — Selwood, 169; ch., battle, castle, pits, 272.
 Penhill House, 426.
Pennard, West, 274; ch., 275.
 — East, ch. 274.
 — House, *ib.*
 — Hills, *ib.*
 Penniless Porch, 285, 302.
 Penpold Point, 363.
 Penruddock, Captain, murderer, 82.
 Penruddock's, Colonel, rising, 156, 436.
 Pennsylvania Castle, 257.
Pensford, 422; ch., 423.
 Perridge House, 274.
 Perrot, North, ch., 429.
 — South, ch., 429.
 Peter's, St., Pump, 171.

PLUMBER.

Petherton, North, ch., 383.
 —, South, ch., House, 445.
 Petra Ægbryhti, ancient, 154.
 Peveril Point, 193, 243.
 Pewsham Forest, 17.
Pewsey, ch., inns, Vale of, 66.
 Pheasant inn, 81.
 Phelps, historian of Somerset, 305.
 Pictures, collections of—
 Blaise Castle, 362.
 Bowood, 16.
 Butleigh Court, 283.
 Charlton Park, 12.
 Compton Chamberlayne House, 156.
 Corsham Court, 24.
 Crowcombe, 470.
 Everley, 45.
 Greenhill, 147.
 Grittleton House, 22.
 Heytesbury Park, 146.
 Kingston Lacy, 187.
 Knoyle House, 164.
 Lacock Abbey, 49.
 Leigh Court, 364.
 Longford, 131.
 Longleat, 152.
 Melbury Park, 238.
 Moreton House, 202.
 New Hall, 135.
 Pyt House, 163.
 Salisbury, 108.
 Sherborne Castle, 181.
 Springfield, 193.
 Stourhead, 170.
 Teffont Evias, 157.
 Tottenham House, 44.
 Wardour Castle, 159.
 Wilton House, 128.
 Wimborne, S. Giles, 139.
 Piddleswood, 268.
 Piddleton, ch., 201, 268.
 Piddle river, 194, 268.
 Piddletrenthide, ch., 241.
Pill, 367.
 Pillesdon, ch., 228.
 — Pen, 224, 227.
 Pilton, ch., Barn, 274, 418.
 Pimperne, ch., Maze, Parsonage, 219.
 Pinhay House, Landslip, 234.
 Pinkney Park, 13.
 Pinnacle Rock, 193, 244.
 Pitch and Pay Gate, 361.
 Pitmead, 149.
 Pitney, 442.
 Pitt, Earl of Chatham, 34;
 at Stratford, 122; at Burton, 444.
 — Wm., at Burton, 414.
 Pixton Park, 473, 474.
 Piace House, 158.
 Plague at Salisbury, 89.
 Plumber House, 268.

PYT.

Plumby's Den, 396.
 Polden Hill, 283, 381, 426.
 Ponter's Ball, 274.
Poole, New, Junction, 190.
 —, Borough, inns, trade, 190; history, 191; smuggling, buccaneers, ch., worthies, 192; Guildhall, harbour, 193.
 Pool-reef, 305.
 Poore, Bishop, 87, 90.
Poorstock, Castle, ch., 237.
 Porlock, 459; ch., sheep, 460.
 — Weir, 461.
Portbury, ch., priory, 367.
 Portisham, ch., 214.
Portishead, dock, ch., courthouse, 367.
Portland, Isle of, Chesil Bank, 252; the Fleet, 252-253; history, people, hamlets, castle, 254; quarries, fossil trees, 255; breakwater, 256; convict prison, 257; Bill, lighthouse, shambles, Race, 258.
Porton, ch., 80.
 Potterne, ch., Porch-house, 75, 82.
 Potter's clay, pits of, 193.
 Poulett, Sir Amyas, 431.
 Poulshot, ch., 75.
 Poundbury Camp, 207.
 Poxwell, ch., Manor-house, stone circle, 203, 213.
 Poyntington, ch., Manor-house, battle, 182.
 Preston, ch., valley, white horse, 213.
 Preston Plucknett, ch., 412.
 Priddy, ch., 399.
 Priestly, Dr., chemist, at Calne, 18.
 Princes, 384.
 Prior Park, 323.
 Priston, ch., 419.
 Prospect Stile, 324.
 — Tower, 56.
 Publow, ch., 423.
 Puddletown, ch., 208, 261.
 Pulham, ch., 241.
 Puncnkoll, Knob, 225.
 Punfell Cove, 250.
 Purbeck, Isle of, topography, 242; geology, 243; quarries, marble, 245.
 Purse, Caundle, ch., 182.
Purton, ch., Spa, 27.
 Putsham, 468.
Pylle, ch., House, 274.
 Pynsent, Sir William, 443.
 Pyrland, 389.
 Pyt House, pictures, 163.

QUANTOCK.

Q.

Quantock Hills, 390, 447, 467.
 — Lodge, 467.
 Quantock's Head, West, ch.,
 469.
 Quarley Hill, 80.
 Queen Charlton, 328.
 Queen's Camel, ch., sulphur-
 ous spring, 410.

R.

Racedown Lodge, 228.
 Radipole Waters, 213.
Radstock, coalpits, 403, 420,
 424; coalfield, 419; ch.,
 421.
 Railways, xxvi. xxxviii.
 xlviii.
 Raleigh, Sir Walter, at Sher-
 borne, 180.
 Rampisham, ch., cross, 238.
 Ramsbury, Bishopric, ch.,
 Manor, 64.
 Ranston House, 266.
 Raven's Oak, 270.
 Rawlsbury Rings, 222.
 Red Deer, Wild, hunt of, 461,
 473.
 Redhorn Turnpike, 84.
 Redlinch Park, 406, 273.
 Reforme, 254.
 Reeve-Pole, the, 255.
 Rempston House, 201.
 Reservoir of Wilts and Berks
 Canal, 29.
 Restrop, 27.
 Revels Hill, 241.
 Rhines, 377.
 Rhodhorn, 234.
 Richmond Castle, 425.
 Ridge Hill, 215,
 Ridge Way, the, 69, 83, 84,
 139, 207, 209, 326.
 — Wood, Great, 161.
 Rimbury, 213.
 Rimpton, ch., 410.
 Ringsbury, 27.
 Ring's Hill, 250.
 Ringstead Bay, 252.
 Road, ch., 54, 404.
Roadwater, 449.
 Robin Hood's Ball, 84;
 Bower, 150; Butts, 392.
 Rockborn, 134.
 Rockley, ch., House, 30,
 Rodbourne House, 20.
 Roddenbury Castle, Hill,
 155.
 Rodney, Stoke, ch., Knoll,
 399.
Rodwell, 252.

SADBOROUGH.

Roger, Bishop of Sarum, 9,
 10, 71.
 Rolleston, ch., 83.
 Roman Remains—
 Amphitheatres—
 At Bath, 309.
 Bedwyn, 65.
 Dorchester, 206.
 On Mendip, 399.
 At Boreham and Pitmead,
 149.
 „ Bratton, 273.
 „ Broadway, 213.
 „ Bruton, 406.
 „ Camerton, 421.
 „ Dewlish, 220.
 „ Dinnington, 436.
 „ Discove, 406.
 „ Dorchester, 206.
 „ Edington, 307.
 „ Frampton, 236.
 „ Ilchester, 428.
 On Jordan Hill, 213.
 At Keynsham, 328.
 „ Littlecote, 64.
 In Newton Cutting, 327.
 At Pitmead, 149.
 „ Pitney, 442.
 „ Preston, 213.
 „ Shepton Mallet, 418.
 „ Stratcombe, 237.
 „ Wadeford, 436.
 „ Wellow, 420.
 „ Whatley, 403.
 „ Winterbourne King-
 ston, 259.
 „ Wraxall, North, 21.
 Pig of Lead at Blagdon, 396;
 at Wookey, 304.
 Roman Roads, 13, 28, 87,
 161, 217, 375, 399, 438.
 Rood Ashton, ch., 53.
 Round Chimneys, 241.
 — Hill (near Wincanton),
 271.
 — Hill (near Camerton),
 421.
 — Pound, 203.
 Roundway Down, Battle of,
 75.
 Rowbarrow, ch., 396.
 Rowde, ch., 75.
 Rownham Ferry, 360.
 Rushall, ch., Park, 68.
 Rushmore, 259; Lodge, 217.
 Rushton, 439.
 Russel family, Rise of, 208.
 Rybury Camp, 67.

S.

Sacheverell, Dr., birthplace,
 34.
 SADBOROUGH House, 434.

SHAFTESBURY.

Salisbury, inns, railways,
 rivers, drainage, 86; foun-
 dation, history, 87-89;
 Parliament at, Bucking-
 ham executed, 88; plague,
 89; Cathedral, 89-106;
 ground plan, 91; clois-
 ters, 102; Chapter-house,
 103; Bishop's Palace, 105;
 Close, chs., 106, 107; Ma-
 tron's college, 106; St.
 Edmund's college, 107;
 ancient houses, 106-109;
 Harnham and Fisherton,
 St. Nicholas' Hospital,
 Council-house, pictures,
 Market-place, 108; Mar-
 ket-house, Poultry Cross,
 Hall of John Halle, George
 Inn, 109; Joiner's Hall,
 Tailor's Hall, King's
 Arms, Mitre Corner, 110;
 museums, 110, 111;
 worthies, 111.
Salisbury Plain, 83.
Saltford, Tunnel, House,
 327.
 Sampford Brett, ch., 447, 473.
Sandford, Hill, bone-caves,
 394.
 — Orcas, ch., Manor-house,
 182, 410, 411.
 Sandhill, East, 451.
 Sandsfoot Castle, 212.
 Sarsen-stones, xxv., 36, 39,
 41, 42, 67, 70, 116.
 Sarum, Old, Hill of, 112;
 history, 113; transference
 of see, 86, 113.
 Savage, the poet, grave of,
 353.
Savernake, ch., forest,
 Lodge, 43; hotel, 66.
 Sceorstan, ancient, 13.
 "Scot, John the," death of,
 at Malmesbury, 9.
 Scott, John, Dr., birthplace
 of, 14.
 Scowles, 249.
 Scratchbury Camp, 148.
 Scythe-stones, 392.
 Seacombe, 247.
Sea Mills, 363.
 Sedgehill House, 164.
 Sedgemoor, 381; battle, 382.
Seend, ch., Manor-house, 76.
 Selwood Forest, 400.
 Selworthy, ch., cross, 459.
Semly, ch., 164.
 Seven Wells, Valley of, 390,
 466.
 Shaftesbury, position, 165;
 Abbey, 166; the Byzant,
 167; churches, history,
 Town-hall, 166; Castle
 Hill, almshouses, 167.

SHAFTESBURY.

Shaftesbury, family, 139.
 Shalborn, 77.
 Sham Castle, 323.
 Shambles, 258.
 Shank's House, 273.
Shapwick, ch., 305; House, 306.
 — (near Wimborne), ch. 263.
 Sharpam, 283.
 Sharpstone, 76.
 Shavelane Hill, 432.
 Sheerwater, 150.
 Shelburne, Earl of, 17, 18.
 Shepherd's Shore, 67.
 Shepton, Beauchamp, 437.
Shepton Mallet, inns, history, ch., 417; market cross, industries, Roman remains, 418.
 — Montague, ch., 273.
Sherborne, see of, 8; inns, 173; position, bishopric, history, Abbey ch., 174; feud between monks and townsmen, 175; King's School, 178; Abbey conduit, almshouse, Yeatman Hospital, Pack - Monday fair, castle, 179; history, 180; modern castle, pictures, cemetery, 181.
 Sherington, Olive, story of, 47-48.
 Sherington, ch., mound, 145.
 Sherston, Great, battle, camp, ch., 13.
 Shillingford 473.
 Shilling Okeford, ch., may-pole, crosses, 267.
Shillingstone, 267.
 Shingle Ball Well, 76.
 Shipham, 396.
 Shipton, 79.
 — Beacon, 224.
Shirehampton, 363.
 Shockerford House, 26, 325.
 Shreen Water river, 168.
 Shrewton, ch., 83.
 Shrowton, ch., 269.
 Shutshelve Hill, 396.
 Sidbury Hill, 78.
 Sidcot, 396.
 Sidney, Sir Philip, at Wilton, 129.
 Silbury Hill, 41.
 Silton, ch., 168.
 Simon's Bath, 464; House, 464, 474.
 Six Wells Bottom, 171.
 Slaughterford, 25.
 Slaughterponton Cottage, 19.
 Smallmouth Sands, 212.
 Smedmore, 196.
 Smith, Sydney, at Nether

STILLINGFLEET.

Avon, 69; at Combe Flory, 446.
 Snowdon Hill, 436.
 Solsbury Camp, 325.
 Somerleaze, 305.
Somerford Great, ch., 8; and Little, 8.
 Somerset, highest point of, 461.
 — antiquities, xlix.; architecture, li.; botany of, 377; geology, xlv.; levels, 377; physical features, xlii.; railway systems, xlviii.
 Somerton, history, inns, market cross, ch., hill, 427; House, 428.
 Sorbiodunum, 112.
 Southey, the poet, at Westbury, 362; at Porlock, 459.
 Southwell, 254.
 Span Head, 463.
Sparkford, ch., 408, 409.
 Spaxton, ch., cross, Court-house, 384, 467.
 Speke, Capt., birthplace, 437.
Speltisbury, ch., House, Rings, 263.
 Sprat Fishery, at Weston, 373.
 Springfield, 193.
 Springs, intermittent, 216, 225, 374.
 Spye Park, 50.
 Stafford, West, ch., House, 203.
 Stair Hole, 252.
Stalbridge, ch., cross, Park, 269.
 Standerwick Court, 404.
 Standlinch House, 136.
 Stanley Abbey, 17.
 Stantonbury Hill, 326, 422.
 Stanton Drew, ch., stone circles, 326, 328, 423.
 —, Fitzwarren, ch., 70.
 — House, 70.
 — Prior, 327.
 — St. Quintin, ch., hermitage, 20.
 Stapleford, ch., 83, 143.
 Staverton, 52.
 Stavordale Priory, 272, 407.
 Stawell, Sir John, of Cothelstone, 446.
 Steep Holme, 376, 377.
 Steeple Ashton, 53.
 — Langford, 143.
 Stepleton House, ch., 266.
 Stickleball Hill, 274.
 Sticklepath Hill, 142, 165.
 Stillingfleet, Bishop, birthplace, 138.

STREET.

St. John Family, 5.
 Stinsford, ch., 208, 262.
 Stobery House, 426.
 Stockham, oaks at, 229.
 Stock House, 242.
 Stockton, ch., history, House, Works, 144.
Stogumber, ch., spring, ale, 447.
 Stoke Abbot, ch., 226.
 — Bishop, ch., Abbey farm, 361.
 — Brow, 324.
 — Comitris, or Earl, 62.
 — Down, 418.
 —, East, ch., 201.
 — Gayland, ch., 242.
 — Knoll, 399.
 — North, 324.
 — Pero, ch., 459, 461.
 — Rodney, ch., knoll, 399.
 — South, ch., 326, 419.
 — sub-Hamdon, ch., 414.
 — West, 415.
 Stokecourcy, 467; castle, ch., 468.
 Stokeleigh Camp, 360.
 Stonebarrow Hill, 229.
 Stone circles, at Poxwell, 203, 213; Tenant Hill, 214; near Little Bredy, 223; Stanton Drew, 328, 423.
 Stone Easton Park, 425.
 Stonehenge, 112, 116-122, 84.
 Stoney Littleton, 420.
 Stour, river, xxxiv; sources of, 168, 171.
 Stourhead, 169, 273; pictures, 170; pleasure-grounds, lake, high cross of Bristol, 171, 407; Alfred's Tower, 172, 409.
 Stourton, ch., 171, 273.
 —, Charles Lord, his murder of the Hartgills, 95.
 — Caundle, ch., ruins, 269.
 Stowell, Manor-house, 173.
 Stower, East, ch., Manor-house, 168; West, ch., 168.
 — Payne, 265.
 Stowey, Nether, 466; castle, 467.
 — Over, 467.
 Stratcombe, 237.
 Stratford, ch., House, 152.
 — Tony, ch., 140.
 Stratton, ch., 235.
 — on the Foss, ch., 421.
 — St. Margaret's, 3.
 Strayn Hill, 411.
 Street (near Pylle station), 274.

STREET.

Street (on Polden Hills), 283, 426.
 Stringston, ch., cross, 468.
 Strode, 227.
 Studland, ch., 201.
 Studley, 53.
 Stumpe, Master, of Malmesbury, 11.
 Sturminster Marshall, 258, 262; ch., 262; cross, Minster buildings, 263.
Sturminster Newton, inns, 267; ch., castle, 268.
 Summerhouse Hill, 412.
 Suspension Bridge at Clifton, 360.
Sutton Bingham, 429.
 — Court, 424.
 — Long, ch., 443.
 — Maudeville, ch., 157.
 — Veney, ch., House, pictures, 147.
 — Waldron, ch., 266.
 Swainswick, ch., 325.
 Swallet-hole, 398.
 Swallowfield, 62.
 Swanage, inns, crocodile, 243; position, Bay, 244; ch., quarries, 245.
 Swannery at Abbotsbury, 216.
 Swayne's Jumps, 382.
Swindon Junct., 3; New, 3; Great Western Railway works, 3, ch. 4.
 —, Old, ch., 4.
 Swine's Back, 251.
 Swyre Head, 252.
 —, intermittent spring, 225.
 Sydling, St. Nicholas, ch., 208, 236.
 Sydney Smith, at Nether Avon, 69; at Combe Flory, 446.
 Symondsburys, ch., 228.

T.

Tan Hill fair, 66.
 Tanner, the antiquary, birthplace of, 82.
 Tarrant Crawford, ch., castle, bridge, 219.
 — Gunville, ch., 218.
 — Hinton, ch., *ib.*
 — Keynestone, ch., *ib.*
 — Monkton, ch., Farm, *ib.*
 — Rushton, ch., *ib.*
Taunton, inns, 384; history, defence by Blake, 385;
 Bloody Assize, ch. of St. Mary Magdalene, 386;

TRIAS.

churches, priory, almshouses, castle, 387; public buildings and institutions, 388; worthies, 389.
 Taunton Dean, Vale of, 389.
 Tedbury, 403.
 Teffont Evias, ch., Manor-house, pictures, 157.
 Temple Farm, Bottom, 30.
Temple Combe Junction, 172, 270; manor house, 173.
 Tenant Hill, 214.
 Tertiary formations, ix.
 Thames, river, 27.
 Thompson, William, of Poole, 192.
 Thomson, the poet, at Marlborough, 33.
 Thorncombe, ch., 434; Barrow, 471.
Thorn Falcon, 439.
 Thornhill, 269.
 Thornhill, Sir James, 269.
 Thynne, of Longleat, 151.
 Tickenham, ch., Manor-house, 372.
 Tidcombe, 77.
 Tides in Poole Bay, 193.
 Tidworth, North, ch., Park, 79.
 —, South, 79.
 Tilshhead, ch., 83.
 Tilly Manor, 426.
 Tilly Whim, 246.
 Timberscombe, 456, 474.
 Timewell House, Lower, 473.
 Tinhead, 62.
 Tintinhull, ch., 445.
Tisbury, ch., 157; Place House, quarries, 158.
 Tivington, chapel, 459.
 Todbere, ch., 268.
 Tolland, 447.
 Tollard Royal, 142; ch., alarum tree, 217.
 Toller Fratrurn, ch., 237.
Toller Porcorum, ch., 237.
 — Whelme, 226.
 Tolpuddle, ch., 261.
 Tone river, xliv., 439, 472.
 Tongue Beach, 252.
 Tor Hill at Glastonbury, 282.
 Tor's Steps, 465, 475.
 Tory Hill, 55.
 Tottenham House, Park, pictures, 43.
 Tournament stead, 84, 114.
 Tower Head House, 394.
 Towers, Joseph, the divine, birthplace of, 179.
 Track-way, 475.
 Trafalgar House, 134, 136.
 Trendle, the, 240.
 Trent, ch., 182, 415; cross, 416.
 Trias, the, xi.

VALE.

Trowbridge, history, castle, 52; ch. 53.
 Troy-town Maze, 222, 262.
 Trull, ch., 389; pulpit, glass, 390.
 Tump, the, 364.
 Tumuli—
 Long Bredy Gate, 223.
 Cattle Hill, 273.
 Cotley Hill, 148.
 Everley, 78.
 Hubba's Low, 15.
 Jack's Castle, 172.
 Knap Hill, 66.
 the Long Barrow, 42.
 Lugbury, 21.
 Maes Knoll, 422.
 Modbury, 238.
 the Moot, 137.
 Silbury Hill, 41.
 Stoney Littleton, 420.
 Turley House, 56.
 Turner's Puddle, ch., 261.
 Turnworth, ch., House, camp, 220.
Twerton, ch., tunnel, 327.
 Twin Barrows, 68.
 Tychebourne Park, 85.
 Tyneham Cap, 249.
 —, West, ch., House, cove, 250.
 Tynte, origin of the name, 383.
 Tyntesfield, 373.
 Tytherleigh Arms, 435.
 Tytherton Kellaways, 13, 14; ch., 13.

U.

Ubley, ch., 396.
 Uddens House, 189.
 Upavon, ch., 68.
Uphill, old church, 375; cavern, 376; cutting, 377.
 Undercliff at Lyme Regis, 234.
 Underground oak, 377.
 Upcerne, ch., 240; Manor-house, 241.
 Upcot Hall, 6.
 Upton House, 191.
 — Lovel, ch., 145.
 — Scudamore, ch., 150.
Upwey, ch., 209.
 Urchfont, ch., 83.

V.

Vale of Blackmoor, 270.
 — Chalk, 140.
 — Marshwood, 229.
 — Pewsey, 66.
 — Taunton Dean, 389.

VALLIS.

Vallis Bottom, hall, 402, 424.
 — Florida, 449.
 Ven House, 173.
 Vernditch Chase, lodge, 217.
 Verne Hill, 253.
 Verlucio, ancient, 51.
 Verwood, 137.
 Vespasian's Camp, 115.
 Via Iceniana. *See* Icknield Street.
 Vick, Alderman, 360.
 Vincent's Rocks, St., 359.
 Vindilis, Roman station of, 253.
 Vindogladia, 217.
 Virginia inn, 270.

W.

Wadbury, Vale, camp, elm, 403, 424.
 Wadeford, 436.
 Wakeham, 254.
 Walford House, 389.
 Walker's Hill, Barrow, 66.
 Walterston House, 262.
 Walton, castle, ch., 371.
 Walton - in - Gordano, ch., court-house, 372.
 Wanborough, ch., battles, 29.
 Wands House, 51.
 Wansdyke, the, 67, 36, 39, 70, 75, 323, 326, 422.
 Wanstrow, 416.
 Wardour Castle, pictures, 159; park, chapel, 160; sieges of, 161.
 Wardour, Thomas of, First Lord Arundel, 158.
 Ware Cliffs, 234.
 Wareham, inns, earthworks, history, 194; priory, churches, 195.
 Warley House, 77.
 Warminster, ch., history, town hall, free school, 149.
 Warmwell, Manor - house, ch., 203.
 Warren, old, 215.
 Washford, 449, 451.
 Watchet, industries, inn, pier, 448.
 Waters' Meet, 463.
 Watershed, xii.
 Waterwood, 472.
 Watts House, 446.
 Walton, Isaak, at Poulshot, 75.
 Warley House, 77.
 Wavering Down, 397.
 Wayland Smith's Cave, 5.
 Weacombe House, 448, 471.
 Weatherbury Castle, or Castle Rings, 220.

WHITCHURCH.

Wedmore, "Peace of," Alfred's palace, ch., crosses, 306.
 Week Champflower, 273.
 Wellington, ch., 391; monument, 392.
 Wellow, Roman remains at, 420; ch., 326, 420.
 Wells, inns, 284; Cathedral and Close, 284, 302; foundation, history, 285; ground plan, 287; west front, 288; sculptures, 289; clock, 294; Chapter-house, 297; cloisters, 298; Bishop's palace, 299; Deanery, 300; Archdeaconry, Vicar's Close, 301; gates, public buildings, 302; churches, 303.
 Welton, 424.
 Wembdon, ch., cross, 381.
 Were river, 149.
 Westbury (Wilts), ch., Down, industries, 59, 60.
 Westbury (Gloucestershire), ch., college, 361.
 West Dean, ch., House, 84.
 West Down, 78.
 West Moors, 139; *Junct.*, 183.
 Westdown Hill, 78.
 West Hay, 393.
 Weston, ch., 324.
 — in-Gordano, 372.
 — Zoyland, ch., 382.
 Weston-super-Mare, *Junct.*, 373.
 — — —, inns, churches, 373; intermittent springs, 374; Worle hill, 374; baths, 374.
 Westwood, ch., Manor-house, 57.
 Weyhill, fair, 46.
 Weymouth, hotels, position, esplanade, 209; history, borough, tides, 210; churches, public buildings, 211; the Nothe, Sandsfoot Castle, 212; Romano-British cemetery, 252.
 Weymouth, Lord, of Long-leat, 151.
 Weymouth pine, first grown in England, 153.
 Wey river, source, 209.
 Whatcombe House, 219.
 Whateley House, ch., 403.
 Wheddon Cross, 457.
 Whelpley, 85.
 Whetham, 17.
 Whichbury Camp, 134, 137.
 Whingreen, 163.
 Whitchurch Canoniconum, ch., 229.

WINCANTON.

Whitchurch, ch., 422.
 Whitcombe's Hole, 396.
 Whiteball Hill, 393.
 Whitechapel Rocks, 234.
 White Hart Forest, 270.
 White Horses—
 Ancient—
 Bratton, 61.
 Cherhill, 18.
 Modern—
 Alton, 69.
 Marlborough, 35.
 Preston, 213.
 White Lackington, House, chestnut, 437.
 Whitenore, 252.
 Whiteparish, ch., 85.
 White Sheet Castle, 169.
 — Sheet Hill, 141, 160, 165.
 — Walls, 13.
 Whiting, Abbot, execution of, 278.
 Whitlands, Landslip, 234.
 Wick Ball Camp, 156.
 Wick Down, 137.
 — Rocks and Camp, 325.
 Wick St. Lawrence, ch., cross, 375.
 Widcombe, old ch., Hill, 323.
 Wilbury Park, 80.
 Wilcot, 66.
 Willet House, 447; tower, 391, 447, 469.
 William III. at Littlecote, 64.
 — of Malmesbury, 11.
 Willis, Brown, the antiquary, birthplace of, 263.
 Willis, Thomas, founder of the Royal Society, birthplace of, 65.
 Williton, 448, 469.
 Will's Neck, 390, 447, 469, 470.
 Wilsford, House, 122.
 Wilton, 83, 142; borough, cross, 125; history, 123; carpets, monastery, 124; hospital, new ch., 125, 126.
 Wilton House, 127; marbles, 127; pictures, 128; gardens, 130.
 Wiltshire, antiquities, xxvii; architecture, xxix; geology, xxiii; physical features, xx; railway systems, xxvi.
 Wily river, 124, 142; sources of, 172.
 Wimborne, inns, 183; minster, history, 184, library, 185; Grammar School, 186.
 Wimborne, St. Giles, ch., House, pictures, 139.
 Wincanton, inns, 270; history, plague, ch., 271.

WINCHAM.

Wincham, ch., 432.
 Wincombe Park, 167.
 Windwhistle inn, 432, 436.
 Winfrith, ch., 203.
 Winkelbury Camp, 141.
 Winscomb, ch., 396.
 Winsford, 465.
 Winsley, ch., 76.
 Winspit quarry, 247.
 Winterborne Abbas, ch., 223.
 — Clenstone, ch., Manor-house, 220.
 — Houghton, ch., 220.
 — Steepleton, ch., 223.
 — Stickland, ch., 220.
 — Whitchurch, ch., 219.
 Winterbourn Bassett, ch., 6.
 — Dauntsey, 80.
 — Earls, *ib.*
 — Ford, *ib.*
 — Gunner, *ib.*
 — Monkton, ch., 42.
 — Stoke, ch., 83.
 — River, 80.
 Winterbourne Anderson, ch., 259.
 — Kingston, ch., *ib.*
 — Thomson, ch., *ib.*
 — Zelston, ch., *ib.*
 Winterslow Hut, House, Manor, 81.
 Wishford, ch., 142, 83.
 Witham, ch., Priory, 405.
 Withycombe, ch., 451.
 Withy pool, 465.
 Wiveliscombe, ch., quarries, brewery, 472.
 Wivelisford Hill, 69.
 Wolf's Barrow or Oldbury, 201.
 Wolfe, General, his residence, 321.
 Wolf Hall, or Wulfall, remains of, 65.
 Wolsey, Card., his first preferment, 429.
 Wolveton Hall, 207.

WREN.

Wood, architect of Bath, 313.
 Woodborough (Wilts), ch., 69.
 — (near Axbridge), 396.
 — House (near Radstock), 421.
 Woodbury Hill, fair, 260, 201.
 Woodford, Middle, 122.
 Woodhouse, 153.
 Woodlands (Dorset), 189.
 — (Somerset), 393.
 Woodsford, Castle, ch., 202.
 Woodspring Priory, ch., Priory, 375.
 Woodyates inn, 217.
 Wookey, ch., Court, Hole, Witch, paper mills, 304.
 Wool, ch., bridge, Manor-house, 201.
 Woolland, ch., 268.
 Woolley House, 56.
 Wootton Bassett, ch., 5.
 — Courtenay, ch., 456.
 —, Glanvilles, ch., 241.
 — Rivers, ch., 66.
 Worbarrow Bay, 243, 249.
 — Tout, 243, 250.
 Wordsworth, the poet, at Racedown Lodge, 228; at Nether Stowey, 466.
 Worlebury Camp, 374.
 Worle, Hill, 374; ch., 375.
 Wormwood Manorhouse, 26.
 Worth Maltravers, ch., 247.
 Wraxall (Somerset), ch., Manor-house, 372; Lodge, 373.
 —, North, ch., Roman villa, 21.
 —, South, ch., 51; Manor-house, 26, 52, 326.
 — (Dorset), ch., 237.
 Wren, Dr. Christopher, 164.
 —, Sir Christopher, at Salisbury, 92; birthplace, 164;

ZINC-MINES.

Wrighton, ch., tower, 393.
 Writhlington, 420.
 Wulfrie St., 431.
 Wyatt, the destructive, at Salisbury, 92, 98, 99.
 Wych Passage, 194.
 Wyke Champflower, chapel, 407.
 — Hall, 168.
 — Regis, ch., 212.
 Wyld, Court, ch., 434.
 Wylde, ch., 143; river, *See* Wily.
 Wyndham, Sir W., escape of, 448.
 Wynford Eagle, ch., 237.
 Wyvil, Bp., brass of, 101.

Y.

Yarlington. ch., Lodge, 273; earthworks, 408.
 Yarn Market at Dunster 455.
 Yarnbury, Camp, fair, 144.
 Yatebury, ch., 42.
 Yatton, 369; ch., cross, rectory, 370.
 Yellowham Hill, 262, 222.
 Yeo river, *xliv.*, 174, 182.
 Yeovil, inns, industry, churches, 411; old houses, 412.
 — *Junct.*, 183.
 Yetminster, ch., 339.
 Yews, large, 134, 326.
 Young, Dr. Thomas, birthplace of, 472.
 —, Rev. William, 168.

Z.

Zeals House, ch., 169.
 Zinc-mines, 395, 398.

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